# THE INDEPENDENT

THURSDAY 31 DECEMBER 1998





# MPs back Prescott over 'old values'

CABINET MINISTERS and MPs By PAUL WAUGH lined up yesterday behind the call by John Prescott and Gordon Brown for the Government to return to "traditional" Labour values.

More than half a dozen ministers and scores of hackbenchers are understood to have welcomed the shift in direction after the resignation of Peter Mandelson.

Political Correspondent

Prescott was Margaret Beckett, Leader of the House, who suggested that the Chancellor may bring forward investment plans to combat the threat of unemployment next year.

In what some MPs described as a "hloodless coup", opponents of Mr Mandelson's The most senior minister to aggressive New Lahour procome out publicly tiehind Mr gramme seized their chance

while Tony Blair was on holiday in the Seychelles.

Calls for greater intervention in the economy and an end to close links with the Liberal Democrats reached a new intensity as the party took in the full impact of the Deputy Prime Minister's new alliance with the Chancellor.

Mr Prescott's call for "Keynesian" economics and more "substance" in government policy - in an interview in

yesterday's Independent reverberated through Westminster as it became clear that the more unpopular elements of the New Labour "project" face the axe.

Downing Street moved to play down divisions yesterday and Mr Blair used his new year message to reassure voters that the New Labour programme was still on track. But after the loss of Mr Mandelson, the Prime Minister is facing stri-

dent calls to ditch his co-operation pact with Paddy Ashdown. The Lib-Lah deal infuriated many in the party as it offered the prospect of Liberal Democrats having a say in key policies such as health and education.

"Tony is looking increasingly isolated on the links with the Liberals. There is a new mood around and Prescott embodies it," said a senior party source.

retary of the AEU engineering union, normally a staunch sup-Mr Prescott today issues his porter of New Labour policies, also praised Mr Prescott's own new year message stress-

ing that Labour should be "staying true to its traditional values real policies, not flashy preof social justice, strong comsentation. Their jobs won't be munities and improving opporsaved by spin," he said. "The clear majority of party memtunity for all". He continues: "We bers have no interest in hopping have a record to be proud of, so into bed with the nearest Liblet's get our message across to eral. It's time to get back to our ordinary people, so they know real priorities on health, eduwhat we are achieving." cation and jobs. We shouldn't be Ken Jackson, general sectrying to forge new links with the

Liberals because history shows that they do us no favours." In his new year message,

believed to have been hrought authority, Mr Blair says: "Of course, from time to time, the Government - like any - will suffer knocks ... But they come and they go. What stays is the sense of national purpose. What stays is the manifesto on which the Government was elected, a programme for reform and renewal. A programme which, line by line, we are putting in place.

# Wall of snow kills four

# on Scots peak

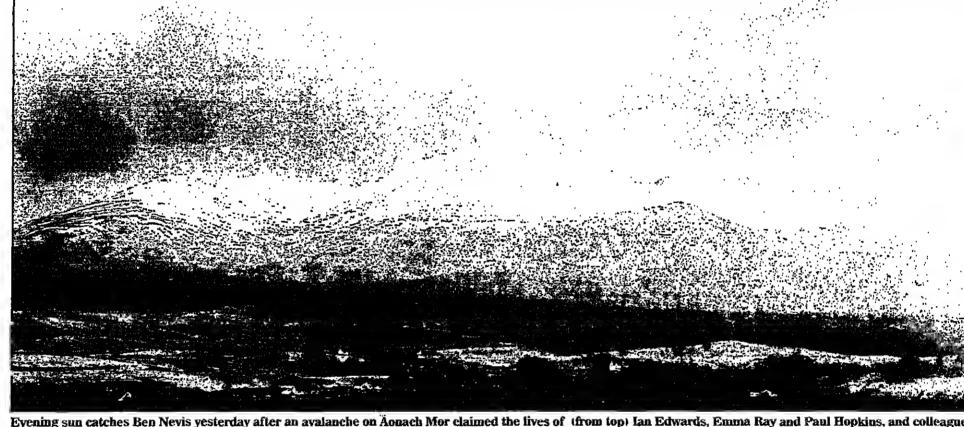
BY KIM SENGUPTA and STEPHEN GOODWIN

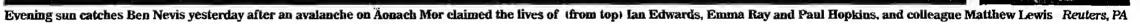
THE BODIES of four climbers killed in the worst avalanche disaster in the Scottisb Highlands were recovered vesterday.

Three others from the party of Venture Scouts survived despite being buried alive for almost 16 hours in freezing snow before rescuers reached them in the early hours of yesterday.

Last night, questions were be og asked as to why the exhihon at Aonach Mor in the shadow of Ben Nevis took place despite serious warnings of an

Donald Dewar, the Secretary of State for Scotland, said that a detailed investigation would





be carried out. He added: "The loss of four young lives is a terrible reminder that Scotland's mountains - so often celebrated for their beauty - hold a treacherous partnership with

Mountain rescue experts described their astonishment that three of the party had survived

under more than 3ft of ice. The perceived knowledge on staying alive through such a huge avalanche would now have to be changed, they said.

A hand sticking out through the snow, caught in the torch bearn of one of the rescue party. led to the survivors being found.

lift to hospital at Fort William where they were found not to have suffered serious injuries. It is believed the climbers managed to dig air pockets in the snow covering them. One told how she hreathed through her

hand to stop choking. The climbers were all from

for years. All six were members of the Dartford Scout Fellowship, having been close friends since joining the Scouts and then Venture Scouts as youngsters. They were all described last night as "fun-loving" peo-

ple who lived life to the full. The dead were named as

being entombed for so long They were taken down by a ski Kent and had known each other Emma Ray, 29, and Paul Hop- one of the country's most ex- ing a "substantial risk" of an kins, 28, from Wilmington; and Matthew Lewis, 28, and lan Edwards, 30, both from Dartford. The survivors are Steven New-Mountain Rescue Team. ton, 24, from Dartford; Sarah Finch, 25, of Longfield; and

their local guide Roger Wild. from Fort William. Mr Wild, the instructor, is

perienced mountaineers and ran his own school. He is also a member of the Lochaber

The area had been battered hy a force 9 gale and the Scottish Avalanche Information Service bad issued a category 3 warning for the area, signify-

avalanche when the party set off on Tuesday morning for the 4,006ft Aonach Mor.

At about 3,500ft they were engulfed by a wall of cascading snow. Mr Wild's wife raised the alarm after he failed to return by 10.30pm on Tuesday. A hand in the snow, page 3

# Major heads honours list for peace Hostages tell of agony

JOHN MAJOR and the former By PAUL WAUGH Senator George Mitchell are mong the key architects of the Northern Ireland peace process to be rewarded in the New Year honours today.

The former prime minister is created a Companion of Honour the highest honour available to the Queen, while Mr Mitchell receives the equally rare honorary knighthood bestowed upon foreign nationals.

But Tony Blair's attempt to use tris third honours list to **Political Correspondent** 

mark the historic Good Friday Agreement ran into trouble when it emerged that leading nationalist politicians had turned down honours. Downing Street took the unprecedented step yesterday of revealing that members of the "nationalist community" had been offered awards but declined them.

It is likely that senior figures in John Hume's Social Demoapproached, hut refused because they entailed recognition

of "the British Empire". John de Chastelain, the Canadian general who cochaired the peace talks, receives a Companion of Honour, and Quentin Thomas, the civil servant who first made secret contact with the IRA under Mr Major's administration, receives a knighthood.

Ronnie Flanagan, the Royal Ulster Constabulary's chief con-

The list includes high achievers from sport, show husiness and industry, but puts a strong emphasis on more "ordinary public servants in schools, the

NHS and community groups. Robert Carlyle, the actor who starred in the hit films Trainspotting and The Full Monty, receives an OBE, as do the pop singers Dusty Springfield and Tom Jones.

Lenny Henry, the comedian and Comic Relief founder, gets

cratic and Labour Party were stable, also becomes a knight a CBE, together with actress Maureen Lipman and the former James Bond, Roger Moore.

There is a knighthood for Frank Williams, the Formula One motor-racing team boss. and MBEs for the boxer Prince Naseem Hamed and the snooker star Jimmy White.

who played Sir Humphrey in TV's Yes Minister, is knighted, as is Nicholas Serota, director of the Tate Gallery.

Honours list, pages 12-13 capital, Sanaa, on Tuesday.

Nigel Hawthorne, the actor

BRITAIN AND Australia are to BY STEVE BOGGAN demand an explanation from the

Yemeni government after Victor Henderson, the claims by survivors of a disas-British ambassador, was due to trous rescue attempt that its meet the Yemeni Prime Ministroops opened fire first, resultter and Interior Minister last ing in the deaths of four tourists. night to seek an explanation for Survivors of the drama told the forces' actions. The Yemeyesterday how they were used nis had said earlier that they as human shields by their Isacted only after the kidnappers lamic extremist kidnappers hegan killing hostages. Before the attack, Mr Henderson had after government forces insisted that no violence or stormed their hide-out in al-Wadea, 175 miles south of the rescue attempt should he

The Australian Prime Minister, John Howard, said his government would "vigorously" pursue the Yemeni government to discover what led to the two-hour gun battle in which three Britons, Ruth Williamson, 34, Margaret Whitehouse, 52, and Peter Rowe, 60, and Aus-

tralian Andrew Thirsk, 35, died. Tension in the region eased slightly yesterday with the release of four Germans who had been held hostage since 6 December. Used as shields, page 4

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New leader for Israel Front runners got off to an early start in Israel's electoral race Foreign P16

**Griffin Trading collapse** John Park has been named as the futures trader behind Griffin fiasco **Business P18** 

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Forget about your own, says John Walsh. Make them for other people Features P6

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MARK STEEL VISITS AN ILLEGAL DRINKING CLUB IN SOHO

**EARTS** THE MAN WHO RUNS EVERY PANTO IN BRITAIN **EPLUS** WHO IS KILLING LIVE MUSIC?

THE BEST WRITING, WEEK IN, WEEK OUT: DEBORAH ROSS, HOWARD JACOBSON, HAMISH MCRAE, ROBERT FISK, TERENCE BLACKER, JOHN WALSH RICHARD WILLIAMS, DAVID AARONOVITCH, ANNE MCELVOY, THOMAS SUTCLIFFE, MILES KINGTON, SUE ARNOLD, ANDREAS WHITTAM SMITH

# **Brown misses** launch of euro

THE CHANCELLOR, Gordon By STEPHEN CASTLE Brown, will not attend today's ministerial meeting to launch the euro, the Treasury said yesterday, adding that the event is purely "procedural".

Instead Britain will be represented by Sir Stephen Wall, its amhassador to the EU. wben finance ministers gather in Brussels

The event will include the announcement of the exchange rates of the 11 currencies taking part in the euro, which hegins life tomorrow. Signing of official regulations will be followed hy a champagne reception and the release of 3,000

With Britain not taking part in the first wave, the event bas beeo a presentational minefield for the Government. The Chancellor could not expect to eojoy a position centre-stage. but staying away could be interpreted as a lack of commit-

In the event, Mr Brown will not be the only prominent absentee. Oskar Lafontaine, the German Finance Minister is on holiday and his place will he taken hy the former husinessmen, Werner Müller, an economics minister.

The Treasury believes that the finance minister of at least

Noon today

in Brussels

not taking part in the launch will also stay away. All 15 EU finance ministers were invited.

British officials in Brussels also pointed out that Mr Brown suffered a family bereavement before Christmas, making any prospect of his attendance more difficult.

A Treasury spokeswoman said: "This is just a presentational meeting and Sir Stephen Wall will represent the UK. The meeting is not likely to last more than an bour and there will be no decisions affecting Britain or other countries not taking part."

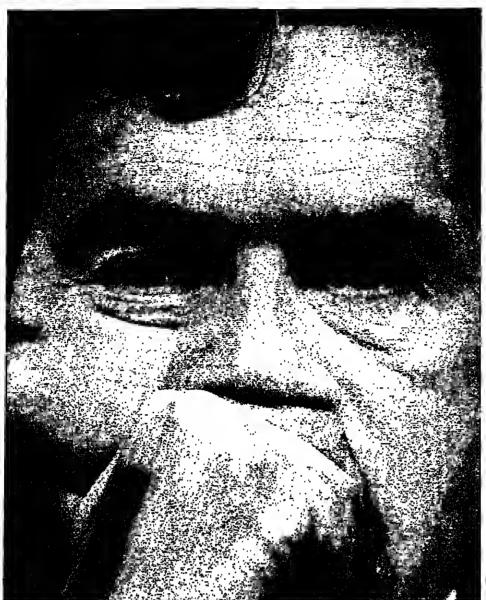
Nevertheless, today's celebrations have been given considerable billing in Brussels, where the arrival of the single currency is seen as a landmark, and Mr Brown's absence will be a disappointment to enthusiasts for British entry.

The European Commission has spent £35,000 to publicise the event when exchange rates will be locked and the power to set interest rates in the 11 countries taking part handed over to the European Central Bank, Notes and coins will not be introduced until 2002.

Countdown to the euro,

BRITAIN TODAY

Temperature, °C



Officials are playing down Gordon Brown's absence from today's event in Brussels

# Iraq attacks RAF patrol in no-fly zone

IRAQ FIRED missiles at a BY ANDREW MARSHALL British aircraft yesterday, emphasising that it wants to step up confrontation with London and Washington after Operation Desert Fox.

The attack happened when RAF Tornadoes based in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia were patrolling the "no-fly" zone over southern Iraq imposed after the Gulf War.

Iraq says both the southern and northern no-fly zones are illegitimate and that it will shoot down aircraft enforcing

United States and British aircraft were patrolling the southern zone at about 8.30am local time yesterday when an Iraqi battery fired between six and eight missiles from a site south-west of Talil, in southern Iraq. Two US F-16 bombers responded and fired two antiradar missiles and a number of precision-guided bombs on

in Washington

involved in the incident and many were missed. returned safely to their bases in the Gulf

Iraq, however, said it had almost certainly shot down a US or British plane over the no-fly zone. "Our hrave air defences have fired groundto-air missiles against the formation of hostile planes, forcing them to flee after one of the planes was almost certainly shot down," a military spokesman said.

The Secretary of State for Defence, George Robertson, said the allies would not he "intimidated" from policing the no-fly zones by the Iraqi leader, President Saddam Hussein. "They [the no-fly zones] are humanitarian in purpose and we intend to maintain them," he told BBC Radio 4. "What we are seeing now is a show of defiance, arrogance and essentially of weakness on behalf of Saddam."

The incident was the second this week involving missiles, and follows the attack on US aircraft on Monday in the northern

no-fly zone, near Mosul. The US and Britain hit hard at Iraq's air defences during Operation Desert Fox, a 70hour air campaign earlier this

the time that Iraq's surface-toair missiles were highly mobile

Despite the threat to its aircraft, the US also said the patrols will continue. "This is a key element of our containment policy to prevent Saddam Hussein from using his aircraft to threaten his own people and his neighbours,". said a spokesman for the National Security Council. "We will continue to vigorously enforce it and our aircraft will take the necessary precautions to carry out their mission and defend themselves."

Soon after news broke of the clash, President Bill Clin- . . ton spoke about Iraq to the Russian President, Boris Yeltsin, Russia has been critical of US policy toward Baghdad but both agreed that despite their differences "it's " important to continue to huild the US-Russian relationship", -/the White House said:

But in a sign that the clashes are worrying Iraq's neighbours and America's allies, Turkey said it wanted the issue to he handled delicately. "This is a sensitive situation for Turkey," said the Defence Minister, Ismet Sezgin. The allied air forces depend on bases in Turkey, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.

# HIGH TIDES

FORECAST

London, SE England, E Anglis, E & NE England: A breezy and day with light rain and dnzzle, especially towards the coast. A fresterly wind. Max temp 8-100 (46-50F).

Cent S England, Midlands, Cent N England: A few sunny brea-but it will be generally cloudy with the odd shower breaking out, easterly wind, Max temp 8-10C [46-50F]

Channel Is, SW England, Wales, NW England, Lake Dist, Isle of Man Mostly cloudy all day and quite vandy varti rain breaking out by the afternoon. A fresh to strong south-easterly wind. Max temp 6-90 (43-48F).

NW & SW Scotland, Glasgow, W Isles: Early sunny spells, but soon arriving, some of it heavy. A strong to gale force south-easity temp 6-9C [4:3-48]: N Iraland: A wet and very windy day The rain will be heavy at times, but will it will furn more showery later. A strong to gale force south-easterly wind. Max temp 7-9C 145-48F).

OUTLOOK

London: A12 Green Man Roundsbout, Leytonstone, Major roadworks on new M11 link road, Uniti 31st December 1999, Cambridgeshire A10 betwoon Foxton and M11, Resurfacing and bridge mainto-nance work at Shepreth M8. Unit 14th

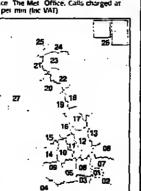
1a (M25) & 3 (Wycombe East). Three nar-row lanes both ways and a 50 mph speed limit in force. Until 1st January. Bristol: M5 J18-19. Major Roadworks on Avonmouth Bridge, Until 23rd June 2001. Monmouthehlm: A449 between Usk A472 2nd M4 J24, Roadworks, Until 11th January.

Full moon: January 2, 1999 WEATHERLINE Lancashire: M6 Benwoen J27 Standish and J28 Leyland. Readworks, controllow and & 50mph speed limt either side of Champok Richard Services, Unil 15th February 1939. Greater Monchester: A57. Narrow larnes Manchester-bound, due to MetroRink construction work. Unit 28th February, Dumfries and Galloway: A74 between Beatlock and J16 Armandale, Major roadworks unit 31st January. orks, until 31st January. A Roadynatch: Call 0336 401777 for AA Readwatch: Call 0336 40177 the latest local and national traffic r Source: The Automobile Association, charged at 50p per min (Inc VAT).

#### YESTERDAY LIGHTING UP

For 24hrs to 2pm Wednesda

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•	Aberdeen	0	0	7	45
	Anglesey	0	0.03	9	48
ı	Avienore	0	0.01	5	41
ı	Belfast	0	0.30	7	45
	Birmingham	0	. 0	6	43
,	Bournemouth	0	0.01	9	48
	Bristol	0	0	9	48
	Buxton	0		5	41
	Cardiff	0	0.02	9	48
	Clacton	0	0	7	45
1	Cromer	0	0	6	43
ı	Edinburgh	0	. 0	.5	41
i	Excepth	0	0.01	10	50
	Fishguard	0	0.05	7	45
	Folkestone	0	0.02	8	46
	Glasgow		0.01	6	43
	Hastings	0	0.06	9	48
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I	Isle-of-wight	ō	0.04	9	48
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AIR OUALITY

Coldest (day): Castlederg 6C (43F) Wettest: Tulloch Bridge 1.00 ins

4	Aberdeen	0	0	7	45
ı	Anglesey	0	0.03	9	48
Ì	Avienore	0	0.01	5	41
1	Belfast	0	0.30	7	45
ł	Birmingham	0	0	5	43
	Bournemouth	0	0.01	9	48
ì	Bristol	0	0	9	48
ı	Buxton	0	0	5	41
ı	Cardiff	0	0.02	9	48
ĺ	Clacton	0	0	7	45
1	Cromer	0	0	6	43
ı	Edinburgh	0	0	5	41
ì	Exmouth	0	0.01	10	50
ı	Fishguard	0	0.05	7	45
ı	Folkestone	0	0.02	8	46
ı	Glasgow	0	0.01	6	43
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RAIN OR SHINE...

A COVEN of witches and wizards will use their magical powers tonight to try and change Moscow's unseasonably mild weather and hring snow. Sorcerers are to gather in Red Square with barrels of ice-cold water which they plan to whack with their

# THE WORLD EUROPE NOON TODAY

THE ATLANTIC NOON TODAY

Pupils back inspections

EXPERTS AND teachers may By JUDITH JUDD doubt whether inspection improves schools, but pupils are more positive. Nearly four out of 10 think

that an inspection improved their school, according to a Mori survey of 4,000 11- to 16year-olds. Boys in particular said they learned more in class after the inspection than before. A third of them noticed the difference compared with around a quarter of girls.

Overall, one in five pupils thought the standard of teaching was better after the inspector called. Nearly seven out of 10 believed that it had stayed the same and only five per cent thought it was worse.

The figures, however, include only those who noticed that their school was being inspected. While teachers and heads report that inspection is one of the most stressful and demoralising experiences of their professional lives, it appears to pass unnoticed by many of their pupils.

Fewer than half the pupils who responded to Mori's questionnaires were aware that their school had been inspected since they arrived. However, two-thirds of the children in middle schools knew the inspection had happened.

Younger pupils were less likely than older ones to bave realised the inspectors were in school. However, the awareness of inspections among pupils is growing. Of those inspected last year, 84 per cent realised that the inspection had taken place.

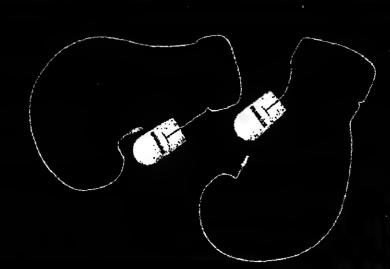
A spokesman for Mori said: Ofsted (Office for Standards in Education inspections appear. on the whole, to have made a positive contribution to standards in schools, according to the views of pupils.

"Although the study did not directly address causality, the clear implication is that there is an association, in some young people's minds, between inspections and changes in teaching and learning. Inspections seem to belp boys in particular with their learning, of particular note, given the recent debate about the relative performance of the sexes."

Mori also asked pupils' views about the amount of homework they received. Most, 58 per cent, said they were given "about the right amount" hut a third said they had too much. Hardly any thought they were given too little.

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# One hand stuck out of snowy waste led rescuers to a miracle in the mountains

BY KIM SENGUPTA AND STEPHEN GOODWIN

THE SIGHT, in the flickering torchlight, of an arm sticking out of the snow was all that helped to prevent what happened at Aonach Mor from turning into a disaster of even greater magnitude.

The rescuers had been facing the seemingly hopeless task of searching miles of soowcovered land in the dark for a lost party of climbers. But now, with frantic digging, they managed to scoop out three people, freezing and in shock after being entombed under 3ft of snow for 16 hours, hut alive. Four others, however, were

dead. And yesterday, as families of the survivors breathed a sigh of relief and the bereaved mourned, the question of how things could have gone so badly wrong began to be asked.

The climbers were all Kent Veoture Scouts, led by Roger Wild, a guide and instructor from Fort William and one of the most experienced mountaineers in the country. The party had gone to Scotland on a winter skills training course.

When the Scouts arrived on Monday at the Lochaber mountains Nevis Range, alongside Ben Nevis, the area was being hattered by a force 9 gale. The Scottish Avalanche Information Service had issued a Category 3 warning, signifying there was the " substantial risk" of an avalanche.

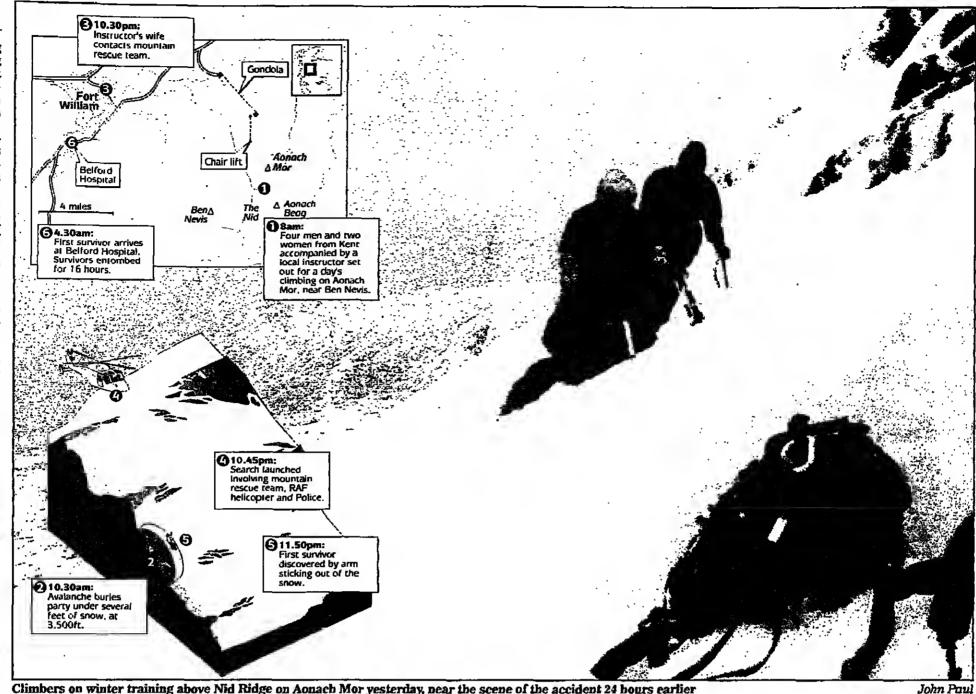
The group was staying on The Fingal, a 128ft barge moored oo the Caledonian Canal at Gairlochy, north of Fort William, and were said to he in good spirits.

Early on Tuesday morning Mr Wild, who runs his own climbing school and is a member of the Lochaber mountain rescue team, set off with his party for the 4,006ft peak of Aonach Mor.

Lashed by icy winds they climbed 3,500ft towards their destination. At about 10am, they were bit by the avalanche. The experience must have been terrifying, say mountaineers, with the climbers hearing a roar before being eosculfed by cascading soow and

ice with oo hope of escape. They should all have perished. No one can recall anydy having survived such an avalanche in the Scottish Highlands. The reason some of them did. according to experts, is because they managed to dig airholes in the snow that was

covering them. They may also have used the



Climbers on winter training above Nid Ridge on Aonach Mor yesterday, near the scene of the accident 24 hours earlier

procedures emergency climbers are taught for such situations, adopting a swimming motion to help to propel the body upwards.

One of the group, Sarah Finch, later told rescuers that she saved berself by frantically clearing the snow from her mouth and nose as the avalanche hit. Unable to move for an hour, she breathed through her hand, which she had clamped over her mouth to prevent choking by the snow.

Mr Wild should have returned home by late Tuesday afternoon. When he failed to do so by 9.30pm his wife, Fiona. contacted the police. They in turo called Terry Confield, leader of the Lochaber mountain rescue team and a friend of her husband.

Mr Wild had left details of his route and itinerary and the team were able to use the gondola sld-lift system of the Nevis Range to get 30 of the rescue party to the site in about an

As well as the Lochaber team, RAF mountain rescue teams came from Kinloss, near Fife, and Leeming in North Yorkshire. The Yorkshire team had been on snow training in managed to speak with a great the area when they were alerted. A helicopter from RAF all of the people had perished. Lossiemouth also joined the

Then one of their torches illu-

minated an arm and the shape of a body in the snow.

John Stevenson, deputy leader of the rescue party, said: "We then began to dig and found the other people. The avalanche had not swept them apart any great distance.

We could oot believe it when three of the people, two meo and a woman, were still alive. Although they were very hypothermic, they were still conscious, and one of them hut it is still a terrible tragedy."

Mr Confield said it was the The 60-strong rescue party first time in 35 years of rescue continued for about an hour work that he had seen anyone escape alive from an avalanche.

Flight Lieutenant Patrick licopter could not be used Thirkell, from RAF Kinloss, said: "In the 18 years that I have beeo involved in rescues, I have never come across a case avalanche.

in which avalanche victims have survived for a such a long period of time. Usually, if people are not crushed or smothered to death by the force of the tumbling avalanche, the cold hypothermia. and wet will ensure they will freeze to death.

"I honestly thought we would only be looking at bodies. deal of effort. It was a relief not I think that this case will change experts' opinions on the survivability of avalanche

The climbers were brought down by the ski-lift gondola after it was decided that the he-

because of the fierce wind and fears that the rotor blades triggered another The survivors were trans-

حكدًا من الاصل

ferred by ambulance to Belford Hospital at Fort William. None of their injuries was serious, but they were suffering from Consultant surgeon David

Sedgwick said: "I would have expected them to have sustained inal injuries. They were in pretty good cooditioo despite being trapped for hours. They are lucky to have survived."

Any investigation into the accident would want to know why Mr Wild chose to go ahead

Wright, co-ordinator of the Scottish Avalanche Information Service, said: "The team leader would have known the risks and the information would have been readily available. A Category 3 warning means that an avalanche is most likely to occur. The reports are available in most hotels, guesthouses, pubs, police stations and it is unlikely they would oot have

heeo aware of the risks. did not normally suffer from avalanches and that Mr Wild

was a proficient guide. Ian Sykes, manager of the

#### DEADLY PEAKS

HE TRAGEDY at Aonach Mar is the worst avalanche incident recorded in Scotland, but it is not the worst disaster to hit the Scottish mountains. In 1972, six teenagers from Edinburgh died after they were caught in a blizzard on a 4,000ft summit plateau of the Cairngorms.

The most dangerous time of the year for climbers and skiers is from mid-December to mid-April, when most avalanches are recorded. The notorious 1994-1995 "season" claimed 12 lives. There have been a total of 48 deaths recorded from avalanches since 1980. More than 200 people have died on the mountains in the past 18

Guides and safety experts have attributed many accidents to Inexperienced climbers underestimating the dangers, With its frightening cliffs and swiftly changing weather, Ben Nevis is said to kill more climbers than the Eiger in Switzerland. However, the experts say the Scottish peaks are statistically safer now than a few years ago. "It is accepted that fatalities have been in decline in real terms when the rise in participants is considered," a rescuer

LINUS GREGORIADIS

with the expeditioo despite the "Roger is a very careful, sensible bloke. Sometimes acciavalanche warning. Blyth deots really are accideots. Where they were was not particularly steep, I just walked up with my hands in my pockets and there was really no scale of avalanche at all. It seems to have been one of those bloody awful things."

Yesterday cloud shrouded Aonach Mor, lifting intermittently to reveal the covering of snow that makes the Scottish hills such a magnet for climbers Local mountaineers said the in winter. Looking up at the dictable nature can be. You can put up ski-lifts, you can do all sorts of things, but you cannot Nevis Range Ski Resort, said: really tame these mountains."

#### SNOW AND AVALANCHE REPORT LOCHABER

AVACANCHE HAZARD 1500 HRS TUE 29/12/98 Strong Southerly winds have deposited fresh windstab in sheltered locations with a NW. N and E aspect above 800m. This windslab is weakly bonded especially on steeper slopes. Where this windslab exists in sufficient quantity the avalanche inzard is Considerable (Category 3). All wind scoured snow. clopes are generally stable.

sarning notice posted at Lochaber ski centre yesterday

## 'I keep thinking he'll breeze back home'

THE MOTHER of one of the BY ANDREW BUNCOMBE avalanche victims told yesterdeath after seeing a newsflash

oo Teletext. Daphne Lewis, mother of Matthew Lewis, said: "As soon as I heard what happened, I rang the police in Scotland and told them who I was and that my son was on a trip. He went away from the phone and then

day how she learnt of her son's came back and asked if I had anybody with me and told me it was my son. I keep thinking he'll breeze back bome again, but I know he won't."

She added: "I don't hold anything against that instructor. These things happen. I think you just have to accept, sometimes, acts of God and nature."

ence in Dartford, where all the victims and two of the three survivors were members of a Scout Fellowship group, Mr Lewis's father, Bill, said: We were not there to make a judgement on whether they should have heeded weather

warnings. Until we can cootrol

the weather, we can't domuch

about such a thing as this.

the experience the trip offered and he put a lot of effort into going. I'm concerned they might

have been overkeen on the day." Mrs Lewis spoke also of the survived, Sarah Finch, 25, and Steven Newton. "Our thoughts are with Steve and Sarah. They must have been through a

Speaking at a news confer- Matthew was very keen to get alive for 16 hours. They've got to live with that the rest of their lives, seeing their frieods die. They must be in a terrible state. Who knows, they may

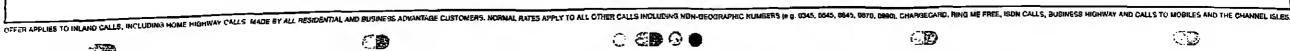
> never get over that." Emma, said: "All the group were fun-loving and enjoyed life. Their guide, from what we have heard, was very experienced dreadful trauma, being buried and he was an expert mountain

we have been told the group were in a safe area. It was just one of those tragic things.

In a statement read on behalf of all the victims' families, the Rev Richard Arding said "We are all very distressed that these young people were so tragically lost while they were living life to the full and doing what they emoved most.

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chile become teens

# Kidnappers 'used Britons as shields'

BY STEVE BOGGAN

THE BRITISH hostages who survived a bungled rescue attempt in Yemen claimed yesterday that government forces started the shooting that led to the deaths of four tourists.

They told how their fellow captives were used as human shields and shot in anger by the kidnappers as Yemeni soldiers stormed their hide-out against British government wishes. Last night, the Foreign Office

asked the Yemeni government to explain why its forces attempted to rescue the 18 hostages - 12 Britons, two Americans and two Australians - in spite of a request by Victor Henderson, the British ambassador, that no rescue attempt should be made. In more than 100 previous kidnappings in Yemen since 1992, no hostages had been killed.

Two of the surviving Britons, Professor Eric Firkins and Mr Brian Smith, recovering at the Movenpick Hotel in Aden, contradicted Yemeni government claims that security forces took action only after the kidnappers



Brian Smith: 'We held each other's hands

said the government forces opened fire first, provoking a two-hour gun battle in which the terrorists used prisoners as human shields before shooting two in "revenge killings" as they

"The worst time for me was that time when a barrel was pointed at my chest. I said, No. no. no'. Miraculously, he [the gunman] went away\_ the army was just too close," said Professor Firkins, 55, from Croydon, south London. He said a female hostage was subsequently shot in the back of the neck and died in front of him.

The group was kidnapped on Monday when their convoy of five vehicles was halted by 18 Islamic Jihad militants from the Al-Fadl tribe near Mawdiyah, 175 miles south of the capital,

On Tuesday, Mr Henderson met the Interior Minister General Hussein Mohammed Arab. and asked that no violence should be used. Within hours, however, more than 200 soldiers had taken up position and the kidnappers hide-out in al-Wadeaa had been stormed.

Mr Smith, 52, a postal worker from Peterborough, and Professor Firkins said they were in a group of 11 that had been separated from another group of five. They said the kidnappers began killing hostages only after the military opened fire.

Mr Smith said hullets were

Eric Firkins: 'The worst time was when a barrel was pointed at my chest. I said, "No. no. no." Miraculously, the gunman went away...' AP proached us and the nearer they got, the more tense the situation in our group became."

At one point, the kidnappers told the hostages to stand very close to us and we could in open ground with their hands up. "We stood very bravely and even held our hands up," said "whizzing" over their heads. Mr Smith, "Then we fell back "We were used as human and the army approached and shields," he said. "The army apthere were the two killings.

"My colleagues and I and an-fice spokesman said: "We exother woman fell behind an embankment and we held each others hands until the army got

surrender ourselves. The British ambassador was hoping to meet the Yemeni Prime Minister and the Interior Minister last night to express British concern. A Foreign Of-

happened."

chief of security in Aden who got away. The kidnappers

including a fugitive Egyptian pect a response with full details terrorist named as Osama alon what happened from both the Yemeni government and the Masri - were the first to open authorities on the ground befire. "The Egyptian [al-Masri] began shooting at the hostages, which forced our troops to cause the relatives [of the victims] deserve to know what storm the hide-out," he said. Mr al-Turaig said his forces

However, Brigadier Mohammad Saleh al-Turaiq, the were chasing some kidnappers

province, said the kidnappers were said to be in a group of 200 members of Islamic Jihad, based in a camp in south Yemen. They were demanding



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# Shot tourist is clinging to life

ONE OF the Yemen kidnap vic- Tuesday. The other victim was tims was critically ill in hospital last night after being told that her husband was one of four hostages killed by Islamlc extremists.

Claire Marston, 43, an accountancy lecturer at Northumbria University in Newcastle upon Tyne, was said to be conscious but "in a very bad way" after emergency surgery in Aden. Her husband, Peter Rowe, 60, a popular and "mav-Durham University, was one of

an Australian.

After waking from surgery for a shoulder wound at Al-Jamhouriya hospital. Ms Marston was told her husband was dead. David Pearce, one of the British diplomats looking after the survivors, said she was "with it" and knew her husband was among those who died.

But he added: "She is in a very bad way." He said she and the other injured hostage, an erick" maths lecturer at American woman shot in the pelvis, were "as well as can he three Britons shot dead in a expected. They are awake and bungled rescue attempt on receiving excellent attention". They were being cared for at the

vivors were teachers and academics. The two other dead Britons were named as Ruth Williamson, 34, from Edinhurgh, and Margaret Whitehouse, a 52-year-old teacher

from Hook, Hampshire.

The other survivors, who were unhart, were named as Gill Dorey, Patricia Morris, Sue Mattocks, a teacher, Lawrence Whitehouse - a lecturer and the husband of Mrs Whitehouse -Professor Eric Firkins, a chemistry lecturer, David Holmes and Brian Smith, a postal worker. preparations were made for their return to Britain tomorrow.

Colleagues of Dr Rowe spoke of an unorthodox lecturer who had endeared himself to generations of students with his long hair, free spirit and lust for travel. He and Dr Marston had met when she was in one of his tutorial groups and they married shortly after she had finished her studies in the 1970s.

Her brother in law. Stephen Sunnocks, of Seal, Kent, was being kept up to date on her

Many of the victims and sur- Movenpick Hotel in Aden while "critical", he said: "She is very strong, very capable. I am sure she will make it."

Dr Rowe's colleagues at Durham described him as a "maverick" with a passion for particle physics. Born in Canada, he moved to Britain in the 1960s. David Fairlie, professor of applied mathematics, said Dr Rowe had spent two years teaching maths in Ghana before joining the university in 1964.

"He had an indomitable sense of adventure," said Professor Fairlie. "Eccentric would condition by the Foreign Office. be too strong a word but he did Describing her condition as his own thing. He was idiosyn-



a fatalistic approach to life."

dangers of Yemen, hut he had

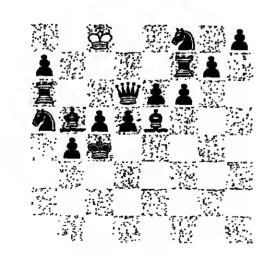
would have known about the School Margery George, a colleague, said: "Margaret was a very dedicated, very hard work- to get things across so children Mrs Whitehouse was a ing teacher who had the chil- could understand them."

cratic. He loved travel. He teacher at Hook Primary dren's interests foremost inher mind. She was very approach-



able and had a fantastic ability

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# Children becoming teens 'at age of 10'

GENERATION X, one of the most written and talked about BY RHYS WILLIAMS social groups of the Nineties, is fading rapidly into obscurity. The future belongs to Genera-

The emergence of Generaoptimistic and opportunistic is revealed in research that aims to cast light on some of the most misunderstood creatures of the late 20th century:

The study, by the advertising agency McCann-Erickson, reveals that, as family units decline, children are growing up younger. Enfranchised by information technology, they are more independent and sophisticated than their predecessors and more confident about what they can

Access to information, cultural conditioning through the media and the received wisdom of the playground are the driving forces behind the new generation. As their busy (and increasingly single) - parents spend less time with them, so television, the Internet, maga-

zines and peers are becoming more significant influeoces.

Researchers estimate that about 60 per cent of children have televisions in their bedtion O youngsters - O for rooms, while 43 per cent have access to a computer in the bome. The idea of a family sitting down to eat together, the research suggests, is redundant. "At best, Sunday lunch now means sitting down with food on a tray to watch the omnibus edition of East-Enders," says Katherine fracture and state institutions Hannah, a senior planner at the

> "There is a fundamentally different consumer out there." says Simon Aboud of Magic Hat, a division of McCann-Erickson devoted to understanding teenagers. "They are amart and sassy, but not at all cynical. They are having to be more grown-up. The idea of the nuclear family does not exist, and higher education is like getting a job, as you have to pay your way now. But with the explosion of access to information, they have finally got their hands



The teenagers of the Sixties and Seventies who take the credit for everything, from teenage rebellion, the sexual revolution to ending the Vietnam War. They are less keen to take credit for bad hair cuts and progressive rock.

Generation

Most famously. The White House and 10 Downing Street. Others can be found attending Relate, mid-life crisis counsellors, plastic surgery clinics and Harley Street doctors selling Viagra.

At six years of age, a girl still dreams of being a princess, but and boys who are less conby eight she wants to sing and cerned with toys and teddy bears than the fashion and dance like Billie. At 11, she would die for eye contact with style aspirations of older sib-Leonardo DiCaprio or, if he's lings or role models. not bandy, then Richard Bran-

"No 11-year-old wants to be 11." says Mr Aboud. "They "They genuinely believe they can do whatever they want if want to be older, just like anyone who is 30 wants to be younger. The golden age is somewhere between 20 and

The emergence of tweens bas already been noted with similar brand sophistication alarm in the United States, among the 10-12 age-group in including South Park.

resent a generation of girls where some commentators Britain. While children as have talked about the death of childhood as 10-year-old girls are shopping for cosmetics, miniskirts and designer sunglasses. Kay Hymowitz, author of a book on tweens to be published next year, says: "It's a disturbing trend. Parental ab-

The Punk

Generation

Rising unemployment in the

Eighties created a generation

public school and a lot of the

glue-sniffing took place in the

Many seem to be columnists

appear on BBC2's Lote Review

shopping in Waitrose. They are

marketing directors with their

most of The Clash went to

nice middle-class suburbs.

on national newspapers or

Others are to be found

own Renault Espaces.

of disaffected youths. However

late Seventies and early

ment of youngsters." McCann's research reveals

works to distort the develop-

young as seven are aware of Nike and Adidas, tweens understand and act on the credibility ratings of the subbrands - that a pair of Nike Air Max is far more leading-edge than the old-school, low-tech Cortez. They insist on Gap or Top Shop or CK originals rather sence, the market and the peer group form a vicious circle that than Marks & Spencer imitations. With parents less able to

police their viewing, they watch

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Generation X

had McJobs rather than

looked like Kurt Cobain.

Working in Waitrose. Living

with their parents. Trying to

stop doing Teaching-English-

TEFL) jobs and get back to

Britain. Working in public

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO YESTERDAY'S YOUTH?

They have a meritocratic borror movies such as Scream and other post-watershed fare, attitude about whom they admire," says Ms Hannah.

and leadership.

The girls swoon over

Leonardo DiCaprio (Titanic

was a massive hit among this

age group). The boys - like boys

of every age - admire foot-

ballers, but in the group re-

search they will spell out very

specific reasons for whom they

rate: the Italian international

striker Alessandro Del Piero for

his skill, the Arsenal captain

Tony Adams for his reliability

Generation Y

Twentysomethings during the So boring that they are the early Nineties recession people best known as the seemed like the first post-wa generation after Generation X generation unlikely to do This gang of would-be better than their parents. They over-achievers took soft drugs. worked very hard to get into careers, partly because they university and practised serial monogamy.

Millbank. Demos. Parliamentary lobbying companies. Smug bars in as-a-Foreign Language (that is Notting Hill and Islington although they actually live in either Ladbroke Grove or



The people who took every drug that they could find and then found themselves in an Irvine Welsh short story. Usually characterised by dilated pupils, baggy clothes and the ability to dance for 12 hours

Those not terminally depressed by low seratonin – caused by too much Ecstasy - are buying Versace and Donna Karan and going to expensive clubs in between buying Red magazine and going to garden centres.

"That's wby sportsmen and

women are rated highly. A lot

of their beroes are self-made.

Even the Spice Girls are like

that – wbat they like about the

Spice Girls is that they are all

pretty ordinary girls, not that

beautiful, but they have a laugh,

make money and bave been a

huge success, and oow they

"Richard Branson is also

mentioned by 10 and 11-year-

olds because he generally suc-

ceeds in getting what he

manage themselves.

#### pre-adolescent age group reon the means of production." ferred to as "tweens". They rep-Important news for

Norwich and Peterborough customers.

### important News for Borrowers

- The rate of interest for new and existing mortgage customers in appropriate cases the basic rate) will decrease by 0.5% with effect from 31st December 1998. The Society's standard variable base rate will become 7.45%.
- rangons base rate with decrine 7.453.

  The new rates continue to reliefs the Society's commitment to mutuelity and the benefits this brings to customers. Fixed rate mongages with not be affected during the contractual fixed rate period. There will also be no change to the interest rates for existing Secured Personal Loan's regulated by the Consumer Credit Act 1974.
- In cases where mortgage interest rate changes are subject to notice, the decrease will take place after the appropriate notice period which will commence on 31st December 1998. For customers participating in the Society's arrusal review procedure, the interest rate change will be taken into account when calculating new monthly payments at the next review the mortgage.

10 10			
New Rates			
TYPE OF ACCOUNT	PREVIOUS INTEREST GROSS GPa		NEV N/IB GRO
SPECIAL 85 85 days' notice £100,000 and over C.A.R.† \$50,000 to £99,999	6.22 6.40 5.89	4.97 \$.09 4.71	5. 5. 5.
C.A.R.† \$25,000 to £49,999 C.A.R.† \$10,000 to £24,999	8.05 5.66 5.80 5.37	4.81 4.52 4.62 4.29	5. 4. 5. 4.

4.52 4.62 4.29 4.38 3.64 3.71 3.26 3.31	4,94 5.05 4.55 4.75 3.88 3.95 3.40	3.95 4.02 3.72 3.78 3.10 3.14 2.72
4.29 4.38 3.64 3.71 3.26	4.65 4.75 3.88 3.95 3.40	3.78 3.78 3.10 3.14
4.38 3.54 3.71 3.26	4.75 3.88 3.95 3.40	3.78 3.10 3.14
3.64 3.71 3.26	3.88 3.95 3.40	3.10 3.14
3.71 3.26	3.95 3.40	3.14
3.26	3.40	
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3 31		
	3.45	2.75
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6.45 5.16 5.95 4.7 6.35 5.08 5.95 4.6 6.25 5.00 5.75 4.8
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5.90 4.72 5.40 4.3
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5.25 4.20 4.75 3.8

£1,000 to £4,999	5.25	4.20	4.75	3.80	
POSTAL 10 (2nd Issue)					
10 days' notice					
2100,000 and over	6.55	5.24	6.05	4.B4	
Monthly income	6.36	5.08	5.88	4.70	
260,000 to 299,999	6 45	5.16	S.95	4.76	
	8.26	5.00	5.79	4.63	
Monthly income	6.35	5.08	5.86	4.68	
£30,000 to £59,999	6.17	4.93	5.69	4.55	
Monthly income		4.8B	5.60	4 48	
£10,000 to £29,999	6.10		5.46	4.38	
Monthly income	5.83	4.74		4.20	
25,000 to £9,999	5.75	4.80	5.25		
Monthly Income	5.60	4.48	5.12	4.09	
£2,500 to £4,999	5.35	4.28	4.95	3.88	

Monthly income	5.22	4.17	4.14	
POSTAL 10° ONLY Rates reflect those six above for Postal 10 (2nd issue) except \$1,000 to \$4,999	5.35	4.28	4.85	3.98
DEPOSITS / SHARE (PERSONAL)* £100 and over	2.65	2.12	1.90	1.52

30 days" notice \$100,000 and over \$50,000 to \$29,999 \$25,000 to \$49,989 \$10,000 to \$24,989 \$5,000 to \$24,989 \$2,500 to \$4,989 \$500 to \$2,489	5.80 \$.35 5.05 4.80 4.10 3.85 2.25	4.48 4.28 4.04 3.84 3.28 3.08 1.60	4.95 4.60 4.30 4.05 3.35 3.10 2.00	3 88 3.68 3.44 3.24 2.69 2.48 1.60
OFFSHORE SAVINGS	ACCOUNT	Γ .		

OFFSHORE SAVINGS Operated by post thro	ACCOUNT ough our Gil	brattar b	ranch_	
£100,000 and over	6.20	•		
260,000 to £99,999	5.85	-	5.20	
	5.70		4,95	
230,000 to 259,999 210,000 to 229,999	5.45		4.70	

MONTHLY INCOME ACCOUNT 7 days' notice (rates include 0.5% bonus) £100,000 and over 8.50 £50,000 to £99,980 8.00 £25,000 to £99,989 5.75 £10,000 to £24,999 \$.50	5.20 4.60 4.60 4.40	5.75 5.25 S.00 4.75	4.80 4.20 4.00 3.80	
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TYPE OF ACCOUNT	PREVIOUS INTEREST GROSS *PB		MEW AN INTERIEST GRIQSS	
HIGH RISE				
Easy access £100,000 and over	E 00	400	4.25	3.40
£50,000 to £99,999	5.00 4.56	3.64	3,80	3.04
£25,000 to £49,999	3.80	3.04	3.05	2.44
£10,000 to £24,999	2.80	2.24	2.05	1.64
£5,000 to £9,999	2.60	2.09	1.85	1.48
£2,500 to £4,999	2.45	1.96	1.70	1.36
£500 to £2,499	2.15	1.72	1.60	1.28
£100 to £499	2.05	7.64	1 50	1.20

Where

are they now?

son will do.

says Mr Aboud.

they work hard enough at it,"

affecting children of all ages,

some of the most marked dif-

ferences are being seen among

those aged 10, 11 and 12, the

Although the changes are

£5,000 to £9,999	2.60	2,08	1.85	1.48
£2,500 to £4,990	2.45	1.26	1.70	1,36
£500 to £2,499	2,15	1.72	1.60	1.28
£100 to £499	2.05	1.64	1 50	1.20
INVESTMENT SHARE				
Easy access				
The bonus interest rates equa	waters to those	antiered on	the committee	noting.
tions of HIGH RISE for belance	es over Finn	ho muke	d to percenta	nce.
with the HIGH RISE rates sho		- CO 109E20		
CANARY ACCOUNT				
All new Canary Accoun	ats opened	on or aft	er 23.2.18	MAR
are subject to a maxis	neuro brown	वेतारंगचे व	£20.000.	,,,,,
	num kryes	व्यान्त्रम्य वर्ष	£20,000.	
Easy access				
Easy access £100,000 and over	\$.96	4.76	\$.30	4.24
Easy access £100,000 and over £50,000 to £99,999	\$.95 5.40	4.76 4.32	\$.30 4.75	4.24 3.80
Easy access £100,000 and over £50,000 to £99,999 £25,000 to £49,999	\$.96 5.40 4.96	4.76 4.32 3.96	\$.30 4.75 4.30	4.24 3.80 3.44
are subject to a made Easy access £100,000 and over £50,000 to £99,999 £25,000 to £49,999 £10,000 to £24,999 £5,000 to £23,999	\$.95 5.40	4.76 4.32	\$.30 4.75	4.24 3.80

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ACCOUNT NER'S TRUST 1653 and over 1 598,999 1 524,999	4.80 4.80 3.66 2.65	3.84 3.68 2.92 2.12	4.05 3.95 2.90 1.90	3.24 3.08 2.32 1.52

₹10,000 Bud Owe.	0.90	3-34	0.30	3.04
£5,000 to £9,999	6.35	5.08	5.75	4.60
£1,000 to £4,999	5.60		5.05	4.04
£20 to £999	\$.35	4.28	4.60	3.84
SPECIAL 50*				
£5,000 and over	4.10	3.28	3.90	3,12
INVESTMENT PLUS				
£2,500 and over	5. <b>6</b> 0	4.64	5.05	4.04
AVC*	5.60		5.10	
GROSS NON-RESIDENT				
\$10,000 and over	2.80	-	2.05	
25,000 to £9,999	2.65		1.90	-
£2,000 to £4,999	2.45	-	1.70	-
989.12 oj 022	215	-	1.60	:
NETMASTER SAVER				
Operated by Internet only	<i></i>			
E1 to E10,000	7.00	5.60	6.50	5.20
METMASTER BUSINESS	DEPOS	HT.		
Operated by Internet only	7			
£1 to £100,000	5.75	4.60	5.25	4.20
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# 'Delia power' enlisted to aid pupils' reading

A GOVERNMENT FUNDED body set up to encourage reading has bowed to the might of "Delia power" - the massive influence of TV and film over consumers of everything from eggs to education.

The National Year of Reading is setting aside money to give children free showings of films in the hope that having seen the film they will then read

The quango is giving £5,000 to the charity Film Education to screen films to thousands of schoolchildren across the UK during January and February. The move is an implicit acceptance that many children will read a book only if they have seen its screen adaptation.

Films to be screened include Shakespeare in Love, a Stoppard, and an adaptation of Shakespeare's Twelfth Night. Belfast-based Titanic Town, based on the book by Mary Costello and starring Julie Walters, will also be shown.

A fourth free film will not be

By DAVID LISTER **Arts News Editor** 

antville, starring Joan Allen, is being screened for schoolchildren because it includes scenes set around libraries

Anita Russell, of Film Education, defended the project yesterday. "Adaptations play a key part in education.

Research shows that chil- Doubtfire and Bobe." dren who are taught literacy using the moving image as well as written text perform at one-and-a-half National Curriculum levels higher than those who rely on teacher input and the written text

A statement from the National Year of Reading said: "The muscle of the moving new film with a script by Tom image affects us all. 'Delia power' - the new phrase which sums up the power of TV and film over consumers - not only has the power to spark a run on eggs but can increase sales of books by over 300 per cent.

For example, following based on a book at all - the new 1996's Oscar-winning hit film Hollywood movie Pleas- The English Patient, annual

sales of Herodotus jumped from 12,000 to 50,000 copies.

The residents of Lyme Regis were besieged by the world's tourists when The French Lieutenant's Woman hit cinemas in 1982. "A large majority of the highest grossing films of all time in the UK are adaptations from books. These include Jurassic Park, Independence Day, Mrs

Liz Attenborough, project director for the National Year of Reading, added: "The relationship between books and their subsequent TV or film adaptations show a healthy cross-fertilisation between ewers and readers "Many successful adapta-

tions encourage new readers to turn to the original novel, and encourage reading of other hooks by the same author" Books currently being adapted into films include The Beach by Alex Garland, Dead Babies by Martin Amis, The Well of Loneliness by Radclyffe Hall, The Spire hy William Golding and The Golden Bowl by Henry James.

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The charity Film Education is to give thousands of screenings of popular classics to encourage reading skills

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There's a Great Deal going on 0% Since the 9 month, payment of CTRS and the boundary boundary of CTRS. There is not the 9th month of 29,5% CTRS. There was payment from month CERS. AN INTEREST ON CERS. APR 2004. **CJD** fears put watchdog under strain

AN INCREASE in the number of BY STEVE CONNOR people suspected of suffering from Creutzfeldt Jakob disease is straining the national surveillance system for the human version of "mad cov" disease.

Bob Will, head of the National CJD Surveillance Unit in Edinburgh, has consulted the Department of Health about the need to increase the unit's resources to cope with the

extra workload. Dr Will, a clinical neurologist. said the past few months had seen a higher number of people being referred to the unit by doctors concerned that their patients were suffering from CJD, some of whom may be suffering from the human form of bovine spongiform encephalopathy

The unit, which was set up in 1990, was designed to cope with a maximum of 150 referrals a year. However, if present trends continue, the unit will have to deal with up to 200 referrals in 1999.

"If it gets higher than 150 referrals we will need extra staff and if it gets higher again we'd have to consider the way the whole system works," Dr Will said. He has resigned from the government's Spongiform Encephalopathy Advisory Committee, on which he has served since 1990, to concentrate on the surveillance

programme. There have been 34 deaths

Science Editor from new variant CJD - human BSE - and scientists have not seen a significant increase in cases to indicate an epidemic. However, the first indication of an epidemic would be an in-

crease in referrals to the unit. "It's significant in terms of the workload. In terms of meaning something in relation to CJD I think that is impossi-

ble to say," Dr Will said. "We have been quite busy in the past few months but I don't think you can conclude that means something definite epidemiologically at the moment."

For every five patients with suspected new variant CJD, only one proves definitely to have it - cases are usually confirmed by post-mortem tests on the patient's brain.

We've had a few more referrals than our previous experience in the past few months," Dr Will said. He added that the unit looks particularly carefully at suspected cases of CJD in the under-50s, who are at greater risk of the new variant of the disease.

Scientists believe it is too early to say whether there will be an epidemic of "human BSE" because of the uncertainty over both the time it takes for the disease to incubate and the amount of infected material that entered the human food chain.

IN BRIEF

Man held over mummified body

A MAN aged 61 was arrested by Suffolk police vesterday after the discovery in a field near Woodbridge of the body of Steven Burt, 25, who had been missing for several years. A post-mortem examination found that the body had "mummified" after being left in a dry, draughty place. Police carried out a search yesterday of a house in Woodbridge.

Teachers 'spend £5m on books' TEACHERS HAVE personally spent 25m to aid the

Government's literacy hour drive to raise reading standards, it was claimed. A survey by the Association of Teachers and Lecturers found that more than half of staff in primary schools had each spent an average £25.80. Ministers insist the £113m programme is fully funded.

Showjumper killed by falling tree AN INTERNATIONAL showjumper was killed by a falling

tree as he drove to a beauty spot to propose to his girifriend. Michael Joyce, 26, and Samantha Smith, 20, were caught in a violent storm en route to a waterfall near Connemara in Co Galway. Ireland, on Boxing Day. Miss Smith was uniojured.

Ferry users' details go on record

NEW RULES on ferry passenger information - first called for after the 1987 Zeebrugge disaster - finally come into force tomorrow. From 1 January, details of the name, age and sex of all passengers on hoard ships will have to be recorded for search and rescue purposes.

Bumper millennium lottery draw

CAMELOT, the National Lottery operator, said yesterday it is to hold a £250m millennium draw on 31 December next year, which will create the opportunity for a number of winners to become millionaires.





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# Maps mark line that divides England

BY MICHAEL MCCARTHY **Environment Correspondent** 

THE ENTIRE route of the Greenwich meridian through Britain, from East Sussex to East Yorkshire, is to be marked for the millennium on a new series of Ordnance Survey maps.

It will be the first time the prime meridian of longitude zero degrees east and west - has been specially shown on Britain's principal maps and will, the Ordnance Survey says, allow people to celebrate the precise places where time changes at midnight on 31 December 1999 at any point along the line.

The decision is announced today - exactly one year from Millennium Eve. Seventeen maps in the highly detailed new "Explorer" series will track the line through towns and villages across the countryside.

It runs north from the Channel coast at Peacehaven, shaving Lewes and East Grinstead in Sussex before heading through the suburbs of south London to the Royal Observatory at Greenwich, where the meridian was first calculated in 1851.

A brass line at the site marks the division between the eastern and western bemispheres and is a popular place for people to be photographed with one foot in each. It is also the new millennium's official Green-

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LINE OF THE GREENWICH MERIDIAN

north through Leyton and Walthamstow in north-east London to Waltham Abbey in Essex. Then it passes the eastfordshire and the western side

The meridian continues of Cambridge before crossing the Fens and running up through Lincolnshire, just missing Boston and Louth.

It crosses the Humber esern edge of Royston in Hert- tuary and the Holderness (4cm to 1km or 25in to the mile) peninsula before beading out and will cost £5.50. The first, of

A footpath dissected by a moon and a rocket shows the line of the Greenwich meridian through Stratford in east London

North Pole, touching no more

The new, highly detailed maps are at the scale of 1:25,000

area, will go on sale next month to track the route of the time line and the rest will be published in stages by the summer. They will show the meridian as a

into the North Sea and up to the the Greenwich and Gravesend nears, we've had many requests even school is on or near the line Greenwich meridian. It runs on our maps," said Paul Franklin, Ordnance Survey's publishing manager. "That's because many people want to know whether their village, street or sides England are host to the

so they can arrange special celebrations both in the build-up to the millennium and on the big

down through France and eastern Spain, across the Mediterranean and then through four nations in Africa – Algeria, Mali, Upper Volta and Ghana - before

### **C&G** Investment Rates

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4.41	4.50	3.53	3.83	3.90	3.07	£500 - £9,999	Annually	2.30	2.30	1.84	1.65	1.65	1.32
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## Today gets an extra second so we don't fall behind the times

BIG BEN sets its pendulum to it, ships' captains swear by it and the speaking clock could not function without it. But despite its worldwide reputation for timeless precision, Greenwich Mean Time is lagging behind the scientific standard.

To make up for this discrepancy, New Year's Eve will last one second longer. Scientists will be inserting a "leap second" to recalibrate our time-keeping to chime with the ruthlessly precise international standard, Coordinated Universal Time (abbreviated in all languages to

Because GMT relies on the ular vibration of this atom

the Sun to measure its accuracy, it is vulnerable to natural variations. The Moon, which creates tidal fluctuations, slows the Earth's spin by pulling at the oceans. The molten metal sloshing around in the Earth's

core also holds up its rotation. Seeking a more consistently accurate measure of when things were happening, scientists developed the atomic clock in the 1950s. It relies on the vibrations of the atoms of the metal caesium for its measure. Nine billion periods of a partic-

ble to man-made machinery.

Kristen Lippencott, director of the Royal Observatory at Greenwich, said: "GMT has become a catch-phrase for accurate time, like Hoover is for vacuum cleaners."

In 1972, UTC was officially adopted by the scientific community, but few people are aware of the difference between it and GMT. "Airline pilots will quote times in GMT even if they are measured in UTC." said Dr Lippencott.

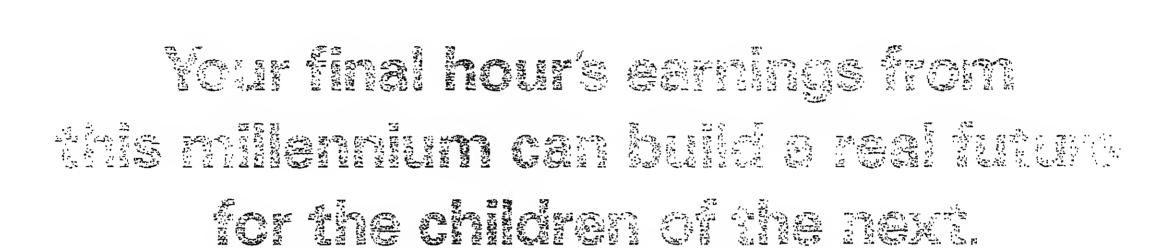
Tonight there will be 61 seconds in the last minute of the monitoring Big Ben in case position of the Earth vis-a-vis makes up an atomic clock sec- year and the familiar six pips anything does go wrong.

ond. Any variation in these radio time signal will gain an vibrations is so far impercepti- extra pip before the long pip marking the bour. There will be no extra bong

from Big Ben, however. Its pendulum is only ever accurate to plus or minus one second. Since the clock was first fitted in 1859, engineers have been using old pennies to change the pendulum's centre of gravity and gently slow it when it gets too fast, explained Michael Mc-Cann, the keeper of the clock. He will be out celebrating when the clock chimes tonight. But two clock engineers, John Tricki and Brian Tipper, will be



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2.5 per cent, Company plans



ernment in a fresh attempt to keep politicians in touch with the youth of the day.

Under plans to be put before ministers next year, a Representation of Young People Bill would allow the UK's 1.5 million 16 and 17-year-olds to vote in general and local elections.

Advocates of the change said vesterday it was simply "absurd" that the law allowed youngsters to pay tax, have sex, get married and fight for their country but denied them the franchise.

Magali Delporte

The cross-party move follows a new study that sbows

terested in politics than commonly assumed, even though many are disillusioned with the main parties.

Labour backers of the idea believe it could restore muchneeded idealism to the Government's battered image and confirm Tony Blair's reputation as a ground-breaking premier.

The last lowering of the voting age, from 21 to 18, was enacted by Harold Wilson's Labour government in 1969.

A Home Office working party on electoral law will be presented with the proposals next summer once it has concluded its current consultation on electronic voting and polling stations in supermarkets.

Labour won the last general election with the help of a large lead among young voters and party officials believe the age change could help it to bold on to scores of key marginal

Pressure to extend the franchise age follows research by Loughborough and Nottingham Trent Universities into the attitudes of under-19s.

The study, backed by the Labour-supporting Fabian Society, found that more than 81 per cent discussed politics with family or friends and three-quarters thought it was important to vote in national elections.

The survey, which polled 5,000 teenagers to make it the biggest of its kind conducted. found that just 5 per cent thought voting was a "waste of time". Tackling poverty was their top political priority, fol-lowed by help for the Third

Dominic Wring, one of the study's authors, said the research had uncovered evidence. that teenagers exhibited an "engaged cynicism" about politics. They were disillusioned.

but wanted a greater say.
"Tony Blair, like no prime minister since Harold Wilson, has talked of a 'young country' whilst cultivating and listening to celebrities popular with youth," be said.

"Fundamentally something more imaginative and concrete is required to sustain and nurture democratic participation. among the young. A progressive administration would adopt this."

Although Labour stands most to gain from an expanded youth vote, the Tories and the Liberal Democrats believe under-18s could reap them electoral dividends.

Policies such as the lower minimum wage rate and benefit restrictions for the under 18s, as well as rising unemployment, could lead to a backlash

against Labour, they say Lembit Opik, MP for Montgomeryshire and the Liberal Democrats' Youth Affairs spokesman, said his party was the only one formally committed to lowering the voting

"The simple fact is that people under 18 feel that they are prejudiced against ingrounds of age. They pay tax, can have sex and die for their country, but they can't vote. It's a classic case of taxation with-

out representation. "The onus is on those who want to keep the voting age at 18 to prove why they are right, not on those who want change."

### LEGAL RITES OF PASSAGE

At age 13: Allowed to get a

part-time job.

Age 14: Allowed to go into a pub: own an air rifle and its ammunition; be employed on a weekday as a street trader by your parents (subject to local authority by-laws).

Age 16: Allowed to leave school: Get married with parental consent (without consent in Scotland); buy tobacco: Consent to heterosexual intercourse (girls): join the

armed forces with parental consent (boys): drive an invalid carriage or moped: Drink beer or cider with a meal in a restaurant: buy lottery tickets and scratchcards; buy liqueur chocolates: enter or live in a brothel; become a Street trader

Can be interviewed by the police without "an appro-

Join the armed forces with parental consent (girls); Hold a licence to drive most vehicles.

Age 18:

Allowed to vote; serve on a jury: buy and drink alcohol in a bar; consent to a "homosexual act" with another man in private; get married without parental consent: own land and apply for a mortgage; enter a betting shop and place a bet; get a tattoo: give your body to science; buy fireworks.

Age 21:

Trees threatened

Become an MP; hold a licence to drive a large passenger vehicle or heavy goods vehicle: apply for a licence to sell alcohol: adopt a child.

#### by Asian beetle THE GOVERNMENT is taking BY STEPHEN VINES action to prevent the spread of in Hong Kong the Asian longhorn beetle

which poses a lethal threat to hardwood trees, such as sycamore, borse chestnut, willow and poplar. The threat emerged after the beetle was found in wood-

en packing cases containing Chinese imports, Sightings bave been reported in various parts of England and Wales but the Forestry Commission believes that the beetles have yet to spread to trees.

To prevent this bappening import controls bave been imposed on wooden packing material entering Britain from China. The insect will be included on a list of prohibited pests - and wood packaging, which carries the bulk of Cbinese exports to Britain, will have to be both bark and grubhole free. China will be given until 15 February to comply with the new rules.

Roddie Burgess, head of Forestry Commission's plant health service, said: "We know that the beetle would survive in most of the country, and that it would cause economic damage, not just to our forests exclusion regime.



Asian longhorn beetle: Infestation kills trees fast

and woodlands but also, possibly to fruit-growers."

The problem with the Asian longhorn beetle - Anoplophora glabripebbis - is that once it becomes embedded in trees it kills them very fast. There is no known antidote and the spread of the beetle can only be achieved by felling trees.

The beetle is about an inch long (2.5cm) and has a shiny black covering. Its most distinctive feature is its long horn-shaped feelers, which are black with white rings. The United States has already imposed a rigorous

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The 13-strong female jazz saxophone ensemble, the Mass Producers, rehearsing in the grounds of the Royal Naval College in Greenwich, where they are performing tonight at the Greenwich and Docklands First Night '99 festival

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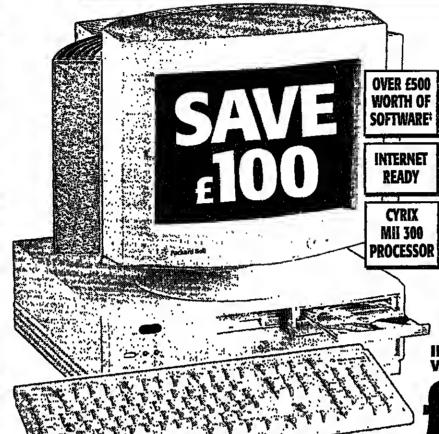
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# Old singing stars set a Sixties note

THE ARTS

THE SIXTIES reverberated By DAVID LISTER through the honours list as the singers Dusty Springfield and Tom Jones were joined by the artist Bridget Riley.

Dusty Springfield's OBE will prove highly popular. The 59year-old singer, best remembered for her husky as George III in The Madness voice, kitsch blonde image and heavy hlack eye make-up, is seriously ill with breast cancer. She issued a statement saying: 'I'm deeply and genuinely honoured This is the biggest surprise of my life."

By contrast, a very contemporary performer to be honoured is the young actor Robert Carlyle. One of the stars of The Full Monty and Trainspoting, he is appointed OBE. But he biggest award to the acting profession is a knighthood for

Arts News Editor

Nigel Hawthorne, best known as the supremely suave and cunning civil servant in Yes Minister and Yes, Prime Minister and, on stage and screen, of King George.

Andrew Davis, who has become a familiar figure on television, conducting the Last Night of the Proms, also receives a knighthood.

The world of the visual arts sees two of its best-known ambassadors honoured. There is a knighthood for Nicholas Serota, director of the Tate Gallery, and chairman of the Turner Prize judges, while the veteran artist Bridget Riley becomes a Companion of Hon-

our Since the Sixties, she has dazzled the world with her flickering and shimmering images. Riley has been described as "an abstract painter in the grand tradition".

Duncan Kenworthy, who produced the box office sell-out Four Weddings and a Funeral, is appointed OBE, as are two veteran pop heart-throbs, Tom Jones and David Essex. Roger Moore, 71, who has starred as The Saint and James Bond, is appointed CBE - not for services to acting, but in the diplo-matic list for his work on behalf of Unicef.

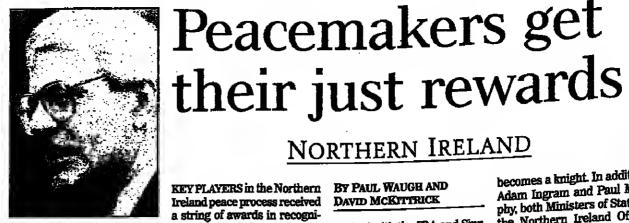
The comedian Lenny Henry, described by his wife, the actress Dawn French, as "loud and revolting", is appointed CBE for services to comedy, drama and Comic Relief.



Gen John de Chastelain (left) and John Major become Companions of Honour for Northern Ireland peace work



The singer Dusty Springfield (left) is appointed OBE and the actor Nigel Hawthorne is knighted



Ireland peace process received a string of awards in recognition of their role in securing the Good Friday Agreement. As with the Nobel Peace

Prize, presented to Ulster Unionist leader David Trimble and SDLP leader John Hume, the New Year honours list is seen as a means of rewarding the participants while maintaining the momentum of the process. As well as recognising big players such as John Major, General John de Chastelain and Senator George Mitchell, the list honours many of the little-known figures who have also played their part.

Quentin Thomas, who is knighted, was political director of the Northern Ireland Office and the government's chief

KEY PLAYERS in the Northern By Paul Waugh AND DAVID MCKITTRICK

NORTHERN IRELAND

contact with the IRA and Sinn Fein during the Nineties. Mr Thomas met senior republicans in conditions of strict secrecy prior to the IRA's 1994 ceasefire. He later continued this role in a more public fashion, frequently meeting Sinn Fein figures such as Martin McGuinness.

John Holmes, who was until recently the Prime Minister's Principal Private Secretary, and was almost Mr Blair's shadow in the crucial last days of the Easter talks, is appointed a Knight Commander of the Order of the British Empire.

Reginald Empey, a former Unionist Lord Mayor of Belfast. who ws appointed OBE in 1993.

becomes a knight. In addition, Adam Ingram and Paul Murphy, both Ministers of State at the Northern Ireland Office, become Privy Counsellors.

It is understood that senior SDLP figures were offered honours but rejected them as part of the party's policy of nonacceptance. SDLP councillors who have been appointed MBE in recent years have been forced to leave the party.

The list also recognises those who coped with the Omagh bomb. John McKinney, the chief executive of Omagh council, and Clive Russell, the leader of the medical emergency team, are appointed OBE. Phillip Marshall, a police sergeant who directed operations at the scene, is appointed

#### The Prime Minister's List

LIFE PEERS

Imbert, Sir Peter Michael, QPM, JP H.M. Lord-Lt of Greater Lonion; comm; Met Pol, 1987-93. D'Neill, Miss Onora Syivia, CBE, Principal, Newnham College,

Patel, Sir Naren, Consultant Obstetrician, Ninewells Hospital Oundee: Itly pres. R. College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists and past chm, Academy of Viedical R Colleges. Trotman, Sir Alexander, Lately

hm and Ch exec Offr, Ford Motor Company Villiamson, Sir David Francis, FCMG, CB, Formerly sec-Gen of he European Commn.

#### COMPANIONS OF HONOUR

Viajor, The Right Honourable John, MP Member of Parlia-nent for Huntingdon. Prime vlinr and First Lord of the Treas .990-97. For services to peace in Vorthern Ireland. tiley, Miss Bridget Louise, CBE, artist. For services to Art.

#### Privy COUNSELLORS

ngram, Adam Paterson, JP, MP, Gibride. Minr of State, Northern reland Office.

ampbell. Walter Menzies, BE. QC, MP, Member of Pariament for Fife North East. furphy, Paul Peter, MP, Memer of Parliament for Torfaen. Jinr of State, Northern Ireland

#### KNIGHTS BACHELOR

Blank, Maurice Victor, Dep chm, reat Universal Stores and chm. Airror Group. hisholm John Alexander Raynond, Chief exec, Defence Evalation and Research Agency,

Davies, David John, Lately chm, dvisory Committee on Business nd the Environment. For leadng Business in abating Air Pol-Davis, Andrew Frank, CBE.

onductor For serv Music. )ummett, Prof Michael Anthony Lardley, Emeritus Prof of Logic, Exford University. For serv Phi-sophy and to Racial Justice. impey, Reginald Norman Moran OBE, Member Belfast City 'cl. For polit and publ serv. lanagan, Ronald, OBE, Ch onst, R Ulster Constabulary or serv to the Police. libson, Ian, CBE, Vice pres, Nisl an Europe and Ch exec, Nissan ( lotor Manufacturing Ltd. For

erv the Car Manufacturing ind. Fray, Prof Denis John Pereira, BE, Gen Medical Practitioner nd pres, R College of Gen Pracitioners. For serv Quality and c tandards in Gen Practice luinness, John Ralph Sidney B, chm, Brit Nuclear Fuels pic. or serv the Nuclear ind.

fawthorne, Nigel Barnard, BE, Actor, For serv the 'heatre, Film and Television. Tones, Lyndon, Principal and Ch L xec, Harris City Technology b ollege, Croydon, Surrey, For

erv Educ. rebs, Prof John Richard, FRS, hief exec, Natural Environ-C nent Research Ccl. For serv Beavioural Ecology. fathewson, George Ross, CBE,

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di awlins, Prof Michael David, cr or serv the Improvement of Paent Protection from the Side Ef-H. cts of Medicinal Drugs. oche, Henry John, For serv the

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Shand, James, MBE, Accordionist and Scottish Country Band Leader. For serv Scottish Culture. Smith, Prof Eric Brian, For serv

Academic/Business Partnership and to Higher Educ. Smith, Graham William, CBE, Her Majesty's ch insp of Proba-tion. For serv the Probation Ser-

Soulsby, Peter Alfred, Leader, Leicester City Ccl. For serv Leicester and to Local Govt. Thomas, Quentin Jeremy, CB, For serv Peace in Northern Ire-

Walker, John Ernest, FRS, For Serv Molecular Biology.
Kemp-Welch, John, chm, London Stock Exchange, For serv Financial Regulation and to Financial Services.

Williams, Francis Owen Garbett, CBE, chm and mgg dir, Williams Grand Prix Engineering Ltd. For serv the Motor Sport ind. Williams. John Kyffin, OBE, DL, For serv the Visual Arts in

Winkley, David Ross, Dir. National Primary Trust. For serv Primary Educ. Woo, Po-Shing, For charitable serv the Arts.

#### Order of THE BATH

Knight Grand Cross (GCB) Wicks, Sir Nigel Leonard, KCB, CVO, CBE, Second perm sec, H.M. Treas.

Knight Commander (KCB) Mountfield, Robin, CB, Permanent sec, Cabinet Office. Scholar, Michael Charles, CB, Companion (CB)

Blythe, Mark Andrew, Legal Adviser, H.M. Treas. Duff, Graham. Lately dir, Casework Services, Crown Prosecution Service. Fisk, David John, Chief Scientist and dir, Environment Internat, Dept of Env. Transport and the Regions. Gordon, Mrs Vera Kathleen, Head, Agricultural Crops and Commodities Dirate, Min of Agric, Fisheries and Food. Grover, Derek James Langlands, Dir, Skills and Lifelong Learning, Dept for Educ and Employment Harbison, Jeremy John Moore, For publ serv. Hartnack, Paul Richard Samuel, Comptroller Gen, Patent Office, Dept of Trade and Indust. Hastmgs, Alfred James, Clerk of the Journals, House of Commons. McKenzie, Michael, QC, Master of the Crown Office and Queen's Coroner and Attorney, Regis-trar of Criminal Appeals and of the Courts-Martial Appeal Court. Lord Chancellor's Dept. Sawyer. Anthony Charles, Dir, Operations Prevention, H.M. Board of Customs and Excise. Scaife, Geoffrey Richard, Chief exec. NHS in Scotland.

#### ORDER OF ST MICHAEL & ST GEORGE

Commander (CMG) Berry, Peter Freemantie, chm, Crown Agents for Overseas Govts and Administrations Ltd. For serv Humanitarian Aid. Scholefield, Miss Susan Margaret, Lately hd, Balkans Secretariat, MOD. Wall, James Francis, Head of Shipping Policy 3 Divi-sion, Dept of Env. Transport and the Regions.

#### ORDER OF THE BRITISH **EMPIRE**

Dame Commander (DBE) Fielding, Miss Pauline. Dir of Nursing, Preston Acute Hospitals Trust and Chorley and South Ribble NHS Trust. For serv Nursing. Seward, Mrs Margaret Helen Elizabeth, CBE, Presdt, Gen Dental Cel. For serv the Dental Profession. Shovelton, Mrs Helena, For serv the Citizens Advice Bureau Movement and for publ serv.

Knight Commander (KBE) Holmes, John Eaton, CMG, CVO. Principal private sec to the Prime Minr. For serv peace in Northern Ireland.

Commander (CBE) Andrew Robio, SCS, MOD. Andrews, Miss Carol, Debective Sergeant, Met Pol. Bagnali, Peter Hill, DL., For serv the commity in Od. Barker, Mrs Musici Mary, Leader, North East Lincolnshire Cel. For serv the commity in Grimsby and North East Lincohnstaire, Berraes, Robert, Lately dit; Social Servey Division, Office for National Statistics. Berraes, Find Stunri, Sen vice pres, ALSTOM Ges Turbines Ltd. For serv the Ges Turbine ind. Bradies, Patrick Alphonsus, Offic, For serv the Electoral Process. Brendisk, Cayton Merk, chm, Admylac, Forser the Indomention Herbonicay and and in the Chancellor of the Duelry of Lancastass ence Agencies. Brondisk, Theor Dwin, MRE, Por serv Agencies. Brondisk, Theor Dwin, MRE, Por serv Sport. Bell Bannell, Prof Statis, Joseph, Prof of Flysics, Open Univ. For serv Astronomy. Carey, Anthony Victor, Practical di Contracts/Ord-none, MOD, Carrington, Prof Ala, PRS, R. Society Research Prof, Only of Southenapton. Re serv ciely Research Prof. Daily of Southanghan. Review Academic Chemistry. Carves, Jenercy E. For serv Intersot Law. Chemistry. Carves, Jenercy E. For serv Intersot Law. Chemistry. Gark. Colin Nicholas, Chief conc., Velans Defence Systems. For serv the Defence and Cocks. Mrs. Freds Mary, OBS, For serv the Commits, especy Health Care, in Birmington. Compsten. David Gerald, chm. Manchester Training and Enterprise. Carling Fre serv Training and Enterprise. Crofts. Prof. Roger Staties, Christense, Scottish Natural Herbing. For serv Environmental Management. Carran, Sean, OHS, For public serv Dry, Jonetson Stephen. Dir. Defence Policy Mrs. Management. Carran, Sean, OHS, For public serv. Dry, Jonetson Stephen. Dir. Defence Policy Mrt. D. Jenerce. Dr. Defence Policy Mrt. D. Jenerce. Prof. Mrs. Mrs. Jenerce. Dr. Defence Policy Mrt. D. Jenerce. Pol

Pergusses, Prof Mark William James, Perserv the Heatht and Life Steinners Puresight Proof. Phach, Prof Janet, Ferserv Social Science. Plawell, Prof Richard Balley, PRS, Lately de John Innes Cen-tre. Per serv Plant and Microbial Science. Pryce, Prof Robert Hereld, Lately Principal, Northera Col-lege for Besidential Adult Educ, Per serv comm-ty Educ.

legs for minascattle.

Gillinson, Clive Daniel, mgg dir, London Symphony Orchestra. For serv Music, Gommay, Prof. Kevia, Joseph Michael, Por serv Psychiatric Nuz-ing, Research and Edon. Harwood, Ronald, Play-ind. Stranger Droum and in Literature. Hawker.

ing Research and Educ. Herwood, Romaid, Phywight, Phr serv Drama and in Likeruture. Hamber.
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The Timen. Pur serv Speple with Learning Disshilltes. Heary, Letuny, Cornectian and writer. Revserv Cornect Drawn and to Coule Rend. Hills.
Prof. John Robert, For serv Social Security Analysts. Howe of Aberrawa. Expetit Romanmed
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Distillers pic. For serv the Social Whisting and
to the Arts. Jeakins. Prank Charles. Lately Accounting Advises. Company Law Dirist, Dopt of
Torde and Indust. Joffe, Joel Goodman. Per
charitable serv. Exme. James George. D.L. Member. Northamptonshire. Lavee. Prof. John David
Michael Henry. Prof of Ophthalmic Pathology. Univ of
Glangow. For serv Op

Sport,
Schofield, Prof Michael, chm. Dorset commity
NUS Trust. For serv the NUS. Serven, Bichard
Gordon, JP Chief Commoner. Corporation of London. For serv Local Gort. Soil. Authory Louvener,
For serv the Brit Turnist Authority. Sham, Mrs Ann
Furrost. For serv Occupational Beath and Soilby Shepherd. Paul Webn, DL. Group-thom and mgg
tis, Shepherd Building Group Ltd. For serv the Con-

struction and Siapak, Maurice, Persor' Transplant.
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Encise. Towness. Miss Jane, Founder, Cunkrity
Projects. For Innovation in Charitable Fund Reising.

Bridget Riley, the abstract painter, who becomes a Companion of Honour

Officer (OBE)

STED, Williams, John Llowellyn, Furservite Den-tal Profession and to Surger; Whyward, Graham Peter Arthug Die, Health Services, NES-exe, Dept of Health. Welstenhelme, Mrs Elizabeth Ann, Head, Continuing Health Services, Dept of Health.

the Earth Internat. Dunn. Prof.Peter Douglas, For nerv the devel of Innovative Energy Technologies. Dunnill, Prof.Peter Dir, Advanced Centre for Bio-chemical Engineering, Univ College London. For nerv Blochemical Engineering. Dunnels, Inn James, Dir, Wells Lad. For nerv Highways and to the Biomen and Edwards, John Robert, Crops Technical Offic Intervention Board, Man of Agric, Fisheries and Food. Edwards, Mrs Ann Elex, Con-solium: Anneathesist, Werkman Maeior Hospital. Portnerv the NESS and to Medical Edwards.



disability and to the RNLL Prost, Simon Richard, Chief cwee, FH. Ltd. Sur new the Aerospace and Falding, Mars Jane, Hendleech, Winton Primary School, Islinghan, London, Per serv Educ.
Gerdnec Mrs Janchte Berid, Lately dem, National Schizophreda Fellouschip Scotland, Per serv to sufferers of Schizophreda Geldin, Geargo Drysdelle, Chm. National Groups Committee, hast of Advanced Motorists. For serv Ruther Educ and In prumping educal finds with farms, Green, John William, Lately Group Technical dir, Angliso Water pic. For serv the Wester and Gereza, Kenneth Jannes, Estatus Projects Team mgc. H.M. Board of Customs and Excise. Gekenwood. Brian Edwin, Lately Sen Natural Besources Advisor. Dept for Internat Development. Hadley John Anthony, Board Member, Handscraide Training and Exterprise Cd. For serv Thirming and Exterprise Cd. For serv Liberationship and Information Provision. Hauss, Anthony Dovid Maurice. Lately bd. Sustainable Development Unit, Local Gov. Maragement Board For serv Sustainable Development, Harrison, Hennels, Men Berlingh School, Finishire Rowser, Hend Griden, Jeffey Lately Berlingh and Safety serv. Dept for Educ and Employment, Hendles, Mar Safety, Septen, Dr. New Doal Project, Employment Service, Dept for Educ and Employment, Hendles, Mar Safety, Septen, Dr. New Doal Project, Employment Service, Dept for Educ and Employment Board, For serv Educ Hond.

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Per serv Aircraft Escape Design and in Export.
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Raymond, Die, Sulialts Wildilie Trust, For nerv Nature Conservation, expecty in Sulials. Microgn. Man
Baren. Jame. Lately Board Menther. Environment Agency For serv the Protection of the Water
Environment. Moore. Mina Audrey Emils, For serv
Child Welliere, expecty Child Reliagees. Mining TelFor serv Rupport. Planning, Marphy, Alexander
James, For serv Ruppy Lengue Prothed.

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Nation., Peter Geoffrey, Di., For serv the London
Playing Fields Society, Newson, Prof. Einsbeith, For
serv Children with Autistic Spectrum Disorders.
Newson, Prof Iam, Fish, Bead. Arian Biology Section, Inst of Terrestrial Ecology. For serv Aufan Restarch. National, New For serv Conservation. OrDouncell. Gerard Leo. Principal and Chesse. West
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Talt. Albert Vetter, Dep Ch enc. Careernian of Scottish Local Authorities, For serv Local Got. Thanter, Ban Mary Edizabeth, For serv Ecutomial Relations, Twenty, John George, JE Menhet, Cale Rushen School, Me of Ham, For serv Educar Installations, Health and Salety Commun. For serv the Promotion of Salety in the Naclear Ind. Memon, Prof Urden Alistair, Far serv the Sanders Profitable serv the commy's Berkholm. Memon, Prof China Alistair, Far serv the Boundary Contain for Scottish Mes Prailine, Chickon, More Electhora, Med Boughials NIES Traat. For serv Health Care. Webster, Port Profitor, Carlot Marke, Bonton, Cale Scients, Luffer, Server of the wreek of the lat Develops of Health. Williams, Robin Andrew, Chief Scients, Luffer, Server Marke Processed Later, Park John Cernat, Section Al, Sen Cold Scients, Luffer, Server Marke Processed Later, Server Land, Se

hysbire. For serv Marine Investigation. Woodruw, Fingh Christopher, Larely Chesce and see, As-sociation of Consulting Engineers. For serv Con-sulting Engineering, Wrights, Robin Edwin Poter, JP. For serv the Administration of Justice and to the commission of Justice.

fice and in the commity. Andrews, Peter Harry, MC, For serv the Missentiar Dystropy Group, Soliall, West Middlands, Ackell, Mrs. Belon Birgit. For serv the Holest Arkell Dyslexin Centre. Arthuz Michael John, Technical dir. Inst. of Quorrying, For serv the Michael John, Technical dir. Inst. of Quorrying, For serv Training in the Quorrying and Associated Industries. Asthy, Mrs. Margaret Alian, For serv the WRVS in Laton, Berlürdichter. Asthy, Mirs Rarbern Joun, Roster Carez. Per serv Frostering in Stofford. Asthyard, Poster Carez. Per serv Frostering in Stofford. Addison, Bobert, Mcmisser Forstering, In Stofford, Addison, Ernest Joseph, Lately dir and Geo mgc. Aruchair Parsenger Transport Company Ld. Per serv the Coach ind. Aurobiana, Maurice, Macchearer to the Lord Mayer of Westminster. For serv the commity. Aylon, Geofficy, Scotz, Peter Serv the commity. Aylon, Geofficy George, Peter Serv the commity. Aylon, Geofficy George, Peter Serv the commity. Aylon,

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Badinos, Robert Stanley, Research Technician, School of Chemical Engineering, Univ of Binningham, Proner Science Ethie, Bulser, Col. James Henry, Retired Offit: 1, MOD, Ball, Roger Seith, Administrative Offit: Bosmo Off. Barber, Ray Henry, Museum Bachinican; B. Bair Force Museum, MOO. Barber, Frederick, Sur savy the Presiton Sen Alexandrone Centra. Basiev, Mrs. Joy Morgaret, Lately asst die Aberbur Childran Trust. Per serv prevention devels in Drug Misuse, Barrett, Mrs. Zinzabeth Janet Preston, Fur Serv the St. Andrews Ambulance Association, Fur William, Barrett, Mrs. Zinzabeth Janet Preston, Fur Serv the St. Andrews Ambulance Association, Fur William, Barriet, Mrs. Clausiach, Janet Mrs. John Matthewn, Association devels in Drug Misuse, Barrett, Mrs. George, Furserv Manag Feople and in Sportin Penydarren, South Wales, Bustler, Robert Dowid, Quality, Assurance Co-ordinator, Land Rover, Furser the Delence Ind. Bestite, John Matthewn, Associate Canatruction Services, Cumbria Criy Cel. For serv the Delence Ind. Bestite, John Matthewn, Associate Canatruction, Services, Cumbria Criy Cel. For serv Rev. Henry Care. For serv the committy in Rooffestall. Suffolk. Berryman, Mrs. Barbara Stans, Henrobaech, Marshfelds Special School, Peterborough, Fur serv Educ. Bett. Birs. Marspr. Prison Organia, Fur serv Educ. Bett. Birs. Marspr. Prison Organia, Fur serv Educ. Bett. Birs. Marspr. Prison Organia, Care Service, Cumbria, Committed Birs. Prison Aberbeen, Bird, Geoffrey William, Fur serv Petople with Learning Distribition in Exesten Devon. Bissell, Brian Peter, Larby Hendensat, The Bissel, Mooren, Lody, J. Pr. Service Medication, For service Petople with Learning Distribition in Exesten Devon. Bissell, Brian Peter, Larby Hendensat, The Service Petople with Learning Distribition in Exesten Devon. Bernald, Prison Petople William, Petader, Briston, Care For Service, Briston, Car

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### =NEW YEAR HONOURS*=*

# Accolade for the corner shop king

**BUSINESS** 

CLARE SPOTTISWOODE, former director of Ofgas, the industry regulator, is appointed CBE for services to the gas in-

dustry and its consumers. Sir Alex Trotman is created a peer to mark his retirement as chairman, president and chief executive of Ford Motor Company, which he joined as a student trainee in 1955. He was born in Middlesex, served for four years in the Royal Air Force and took his degree at Michigan State University in America. He is also a director of ICI and the New York Stock

Exchange. Victor Blank, awarded a knighthood, has been deputy chairman of GUS since 1996 and hecame non-executive chairman of Mirror Group earlier this year. He became a

By CLIFFORD GERMAN

partner of City bankers Charterbouse io 1969 and master-minded the buy-out of Woolworth from its American

George Mathewson, also knighted, was chief executive of nior partner in 1980. the Scottish Development Agency from 1981 to 1987 before joining the Royal Bank of Scotland. The SDA was credited with attracting US computer companies to invest in "silicon glen" and rebuild the Scottish economy at a time when its basic industries - steel, coal and shiphuilding - were in steep decline. Since he became chief executive of the RBS in 1992 its profits have risen from £20m to £1hn and it has successfuly diversified into financial services.

John Kemp-Welch is made a knight. He has been chairman of the Loodon Stock Exchange sioce July 1994. His career began in the City with private bankers Hoare & Co in 1954, moved to stockbrokers Cazenove in 1958 and became joint se-

Mohammed Pervez, who is knighted in the New Year honours, was born in Pakistan and opened his first corner shop in 1963. He is the founder and chairman of Bestway, now the second biggest cash and carry group in the UK and a chain of coovenience stores. Part of Bestway's profits go to the Bestway Foundation, which provides equipment for schools in needy areas and sponsors foreign students to study in



Clare Spottiswoode, Ofgas ex-director, is honoured





The Grand Prix team chief Frank Williams is knighted



Both the boxer Prince Naseem Hamed (left) and Brendan Ingle, his former manager, have been appointed MBE

# Racing team leader wins a knighthood

**SPORT** 

FRANK WILLIAMS, the wheelchair-bound head of the Williams Formula One racing empire, could be forgiven for thinking the timing is out.

His knighthood in the New Year bonours list comes after one of his least successful seasons since founding Williams Grand Prix Engineering Ltd in 1977. For once, Sir Frank, 58, failed to win a Grand Prix and finished only third in the constructors' champiooship during 1998.

But although it may have come late, it is a deserved reward for a determined man who has achieved more success in his sport than any other during the 1990s. His team has woo nine constructors' fitles, more than any other, and seven drivers' world championships -

BY NICK RIPPINGTON the last in 1997 by Jacques Villeneuve. Sir Frank, a former driver,

founded his first team at 22 but struggled to keep his dream alive. In the late 1970s he was forced to sell personal effects to pay staff, and it was only with his first Grand Prix win, in 1979, that things began to turn around. A road accident in Monte Carlo in 1986 left him confined to a wheelchair.

Both the outspoken Prince Naseem Hamed and Brendan Ingle, the trainer he parted company with this year after a bout of verbal fisticuffs, were appointed MBE.

Boxing Organisation's featherweight champion, was hon-

oured for his record of 31 wins in 31 fights, including 28 knockouts, while Mr Ingle's award was for services to disadvantaged young people and to boxing.

Services above and beyond the call of duty could be the inscription on the insignia of the MBE of the England cricketer Angus Fraser. He took 54 Test wickets this year and helped to beat South Africa as England achieved their first five-Test

series victory in 12 years. Others to be appointed MBE include the former England football captain Stuart Pearce. who plays for Newcastle United: Trevor Brooking, the pundit and former England player: Prince Naseem, the World and Jimmy White, regarded as one of the most popular snooker players of his generation.

Halls, Stanley Harold, Lauely Ch. exec, Lead Steet Association, For serv the Construction Ind. Hamed, Niceem, For serv Boding, Hammaford, Authory John, Fire Control Chi, Someraet Fire Brigsde, For serv the Fire Service, Hardisan, Mrs Alson Margaret, For serv Firending, Harbox, Aban Charles, Dove Met Pol, For serv the Patice, Harris, Roger John, Flanning Engineer, Project, Services Group BNFL, Magnac Generation Business, For serv the cannuty in Cioucesterstine, Harrison, John, Porserv boung People and to the cannuty in Carnuar-hanchire, Harrison, Nar Patricia, For serv fice p FR and to the commty on the fulle of Wight, Hart, Airs Sassan Mary, Porserv the committee of Wight, Hart, Airs Sassan Mary, Porserv the committee of the Mary, Porserv the Committee of the Committee of the Mary, Porserv the Committee of the Committee of the Mary, Porserv the Committee of the Committee of the Mary, Porserv He committee of the Committee of the Mary, Porserv He Committee of the Mary, Porserv He Committee, 1 Junes Proderich, Mangorer Allert, Porser Bandees, James Proderich, Mangorer Allert, Porser Bondeesting, Hay, John Phorson, For serv the Committy in Coebburnspath, Berwickshire, Harses, Mirs Dorosty, Por serv the Witty's in Liverpool Heisbert, Geoffery Alan, Principal Prison Offi, H.M. Prison The Verne, Bedley, Neumeth, Shephord Porserv Backles Sheep Parming, Hall, Geoffrey Haigh, Sen Custodian, English Hertinge, Por serv the Bonfer, in Proceeding, America, Ambany Raymond, For serv the Committy, especty the Brockham, Sorre, Hillion, Feter William, Frost Add Surgery Altendant, Boffer, Herthelm, Sarvy Heisberg, Hangelband, Sarper, Halles, Ambany, Raymond, For serv the Committy, especty the Brockham, Sorre, Hillion, Peter William, Frost Add Surgery Altendant, Boffer, Herthelm, Surger, Halles, Ambany, Raymond, For serv the Committy, especty the Brockham, Surger, Halles, Prockers, Mary, Hangelban, Surger, Halles, Ambany, Raymond, For serv the Committy, especty the Brockham, Surger, Halles, Ambany, America, Halles, Ambany, Raymond, Attendant, BNFL Fuel Business Group. For serv BNFL and to Heulin and Safety Himes, Anthony Raymond, For serv the commity, especy the Brockham Bonfire, in Bruchhem, Survey, Hinley, Mrs Norma Etzabeth, Sen Pers sec, Scott Off, Hierbins, Sirnon, Local Offri, Benefits Agency, OSS, Hodges, Miss Jane Efrabeth, For serv Exology in Pembrukashire West Wales, Bolland, Lawrence, For serv the commity, especy the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in Washungton, Tyne and Wear, Holiand, Mrs Patrices Ann. Lastely Cl. Cabinet (Gic. Holfis, Ronald Sydrey; For serv the Solifers, Sallors and Akrmens Farniles Association in Chessington, Survey Bollones, Michael Durnard, Janois Contral

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and Alemens Families. Association in Chessington,
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Primary School. Contentess. For near Primary
School Calidren. Hopper, Alan. For serv the Brit.
Fire Services Association. Horses. Miss Brends
Margen; Team Leader in Thornese Surgery and
Pair Therapy. Rendford Hospitals NHS Trust. For
Serv. Nursing in Operating. Theatres. Borroeds.
Keith. Member. Inshore Lifebond Cree. Rischpool
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Wilfred, Pire serv Chiropody and to Health Care in
the West Midlands. Boys Mire Jam. J. Head, Personnel and Tramme, Montagu Wenteres. Ltd. Forserv the West Indian commity in Derby. Haddon.
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Whiter. For serv Young People. especyl the Duisof Edinburgh Award Scheme, in South Tymeride.
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DSC., For nerv the Coastal Forces Giris Associalon. Hardelinson. Mirs Berly Elsie, For serv the Brit.
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Jones, Frederick William, Par serv the commity in
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Brudgend, South Wales, Jones, Kenneth Wyn,
Sinton Offic North Wales, Fire Service, For serv the
Civersus, Pruged, Engineering, For serv the
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Suffolk. Persuan, Authory Ernest. Per serv the commy in Workingham. Suffalk. Foreste, Mrs. Suffer. Person. Server. Province East Orbert. Toylors. Cuerbes. Person. Person. Person. Server. Province. East Orbert. Toylors. Cuerbes. Person. Person. Person. Server. Person. Among the Control of the Person. P

commity in Lianwing, Power, Owen, Miss Nerys, Administrative (dfr, Forestry Comput. Owers, Arthur Reginald, Lately pres, High Roding Crick, et Club, Essex, For serv Cricket.

Padwick, Mrs. Rocateen Mary, Sen Pers asst. Dept of Results Page, Leonard, Estate Worden, Rouches Engate, Peak Diariet, National Park Authority, For serv the Countryside and to Conservation, Page, Guy Bruno Daniel, Steward, Congard Costle. For serv Conservation. Paulkhorpe, Mrs. Syrina Bright Claim, For serv Pastoral Editic Patients David Vistor, For chartable serv the Great Cornord Street Houghtsl for Children NHS Trust, Palmer, Mrs. Marna, For chartable serv the Great Cornord Street Houghtsl for Children NHS Trust, Palmer, Mrs. Marna, For chartable serv the Great Gornoud Street Hospaal for Children NHS Trust, Palmer, Mrs. Janner Parinet, Nrs. Dennifer Moord Bants, JT Di. For serv the Gornout Street, Hospaal for Children NHS Trust, Paulon, Mrs. Janner Parinet, Nrs. Mary, Lately School Crussang Parrol, Hartley Winney, Hampohire For serv Padad Safety, Parrish, Mrs. Margaret Sheda, For serv he Gisegor Humane Society Paule, Harbud, Administrative Off. MOO, Paterson, Mrs. Annette Ref. Por serv Duabled and Ederly People in Bridgend, South Wales. Parsanage, George Geddes, For serv the Gisegor Humane Society Paule, Harbud, Administrative Off. MOO, Paterson, Mrs. Annette Ref. Por serv Duabled and Ederly People in Bridgend South Wales. Parsanage, George Geddes, For serv the Gisegory Humane Society Paule, Harbud, Administrative Off. MOO, Paterson, Mrs. Annette Ref. Por serv Duabled and Ederly People in Bridgend South Wales. Parsanage, George Geddes, For serv the Gisegory Humane Society Paule, Harbud, Administrative Off. MOO, Paterson, Mrs. Edent Prances, For publisery Pearles, Sturrt, For serv McGorston Hothell. Pearston, Andrew Currie, Building Control ingr. Misforbino Cd. Por serv the Construction and Peel, Mrs. Papies Joseph, Pers. Weicheel Joseph, Par Serv the Construction and Peel, Mrs. Papies Burel, Joseph Pers. Medical Joseph, Par Serv the Co

Aberdeen For serv Educ. Rossqueite, Mrs. Pamela, Per serv the commity, especty Disabled People and the Environment in Salsbury, Witshire, Russianik, Mrs. Murkel Joy, For charitable serv the commity in Hayle, Corusall, Russiak, Romald Edward Setton, mgg die Edward Setton, Grosservation, Russiak, Hayle, Corusall, Russiak, Romald Edward Setton, mgg die Edward Grand Centre, Ratho, For serv Canel Restoration and Conservation, Russi, Michael John, Patrol, Automobile Association, For serv Lead, Rust Lately Pers, assi to the UK case die Baff and World Stank. For serv Bytes, Miss Dearder May, Lately Pers, assi to the UK case die Baff and World Stank. Service the Internat Monetary Fand.

Salser, Mrs. Botty Lately chard Governors, Chasen Hill School, Gloucestershire, Pre serv Bart. Soundry, Roger Questin, Sah Offic Cornwall Crity For Brigade. Perserv the Fre Service Servill, Mrs. Jonn Margaret, For serv the commity in Phernag, Desent, Sarva, Corge Amastast, Member London Barton, School, Mrs. Annue, Restaurature, For serv Disabled People and their Corres in Annu. School, Mrs. Annue, Restaurature, For serv Tourism, Scott, Gaw, For serv the London Bransport Housing Association, Scott, Miss Hazel Carrington, Lately ence Offic MOD, Scott, James, Per Serv the Committy on Scott, Miss Hazel Carrington, Lately ence Offic MOD, Scott, James, Per Serv the Committy uspecty Consumer Allahn, In Derbyshine, Sheera, Mrs. John, For serv Primary Educ, Shenton, Arthur Ernest, Technical die, Woodworking, Mrs. Phylis William, For serv Mentalty III Propile on Jer. Phylis William, For serv Mentalty III Prepile on Jer. Phylis William, For serv Mentalty III Prepile on Jer.



Denise Lewis, European and Commonwealth he ptathlon champion, is appointed MBE Tony Marshall/Empics

licers. Perfitt, Victor Daniel, ehm, Brit Herbal Medicines and, Perry, George Edward, mag die Hyperion Records. For serv the Music Publishing md. Publish. Birardia Edward, For serv the commy in Teitury Gloroesterabler. Phillips. Mrs. May. For serv Farent Counselling, Philips. Mrs. May. For serv Farent Counselling, Philips. Mrs. May. For serv Farent Counselling, Philips. Mrs. May. For serv S. Martin in the Fleich High School, London. Pierce, David. Lately Sen Trabring, Advance. Dept. Mrs. Aguelt. Adv. Sen Fers see, H.M. Board of Customs and Excess. Portex, Gerald Pope. Dept for Internant Development. Parts. Herbert John. Governor S. H.M. Prison Geredon. Portex Mrs. Margorie Tyrrell, For serv the commity, espechy bung People. in Lambeth. Landon. Pournary: Salest Thortess. Lately Unit mg. Elepod House Church Army Hostel. Maylebone. Landon. Pro serv Herbert John. Governor S. H.M. Prison Geredon. Prets. Mrs. Margorie Tyrrell, For serv the Will's in Witshire. Pratt. Muleshin. Landor, Churchs. Portex. Cathleen Ann. For serv the Will's In Witshire. Pratt. Muleshin. Landor, Churchs. Mrs. Alson May Minels Thor. Warfie Prinsary School. Edinburgh. For serv Local Govt. Presson. Mrs. Alson May Minels Thor. Warfie Prinsary School. Edinburgh. For serv Music Edine. Presson. Thomas Jules. J.P. mag dir. City of Sanderhand Tarining, and Emerysies Cel. For serv Training, partic for those with Special Nocks. Price. Anthony Cecl. Sub Off. Herefard and Warcester Fire Brigade. For serv Fire Service. Quina, Mrs. Beatrine Elizabett. For serv the Counselling of the Families of Prisoners and for the Victims of Crime. Quina, Mrs. Beatrine Elizabett. For serv the Counselling of the Families of Prisoners and for the Victims of Crime. Quina, Mrs. Beatrine Elizabett. For serv the Counselling of the Families of Prisoners and for the Victims of Crime. Quina, Mrs. Beatrine Elizabett. For serv the Counselling of the Families of Prisoners and for the Victims of Crime. Prisoners and for the Victims of Crime. Prisoners and for the Victims of Crime. Pr gery Pristin Bource of Vision's Ironal John Johnson, James, For sery the promotion of self-help groups for Sufferers of Mental filmets, partic through the Libramy Chai, Roope, Brys. Margaret, For sery the King Georges Fund for Suffers in Bristol, Roscow, Mrs. Joan, For sery Age Concern in Presido and South Ribble, Lancasthrer, Roes, Mes Sylviz Mar-garet, Sen Thacher, Kity/brewster Primary School.

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Vasey, Mrs. Penelope, Gen Derital Practinaner and Chair, Committee on Vectional Training in Eng and Wales. For serv betal Training, Vere, Geof-frey Ruison, For serv the commy in Eldey, West Verkshre, Vine, Mrs. Valerie Eind, for serv the Soot Tre Children Rund in Barmouth, Gwonedd. Vapper, Mrs. Amie Hubbnek, For serv the commity in Ruthin and District.

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RVMS
Ambrese, Barry Russell, Tractor Driver, Crown
Estate, Windows, Bigsby, Robert Paul, Dep ch
Steward, B Train, Biss. Div Sgs Maj Walter Harry.
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Cuard, Bryant, Constable Stephen Charles, Rty
Protection Dept. Met Pol. Carfin, Constable
Joseph Kevin, Bty Protection Dept. Met Pol. Cot-

trell, Richard George, Driver, Gardens Deut, Crown Estate, Windsor, Day, Joseph Walter Frank, Lately R Mews, Buckingham Palace, Gillender, Constable Paul George, Riy Protection Dept. Met Pol. Hazell, Div Sgi May Charles Thomas Hugh, BEM, The Queens Body Goard of the Yeumen of the Guard, Hollis, Misc Margaret Else, Housemaid, Gort House, Adelaide, Riootoo, Rymonod Claud Cyril, Efectrician, Buckingham Palace, Soulard, Stephen Michael, Sen Gardenec, Kensmynon Palace, Stewart, Mrs. Agnes Annie Watt, Ladys Maid, Household of the Lord High corner Walterdune, Dv Sgt Maj Ronald David, Lately The Queen: Body Guard of the Venmen of the Guard.

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Commander (CMG) COMIDMANAET (CIMG)
Camining, Michael John, Dep dur, Gowt Committnications Headquarters. Debouza, Dr. Francon
Certruder Juire, For serv Insuran rights, Eidon,
Steward Graham, OBE, Labely FCO, Garrod, Li
Gen Str John Martin Carruthers, KCB, OBE,
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Linu, Jones, Hywel Cori, Luely Dep dur-Gen, European Commu, Lewis, Prof Geoffrey Lewis, Por
Gert Turkich studies, Phillipp., Alan, For gery

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Officer (OBE)

Officer (OBE)
Atherton, David, For serv music in Hong Kong, Boord, Kathryn, Die Br Cd, Colombin, Broadhd, Prof Robert Lumb, For serv child hill; in developing commrien, especty Maluri, Claric, Julian Manure, For publ. commiy and himsen rights serv, Bril Virgin Islands. Coe. Richard William Tebrit, For serv cannuty projects in Jamaica, Coesanasker. The Revertend Canon Colin Richard Chad, For serv cannuty projects in Jamaica, Coesanasker. The Revertend Canon Colin Richard Chad, For serv commty bith in Maluri, Dean, Sing-Judith Ellen, MBE, For serv youth and the commty in Swarfland. Drade, Marcin James, For serv the European Monitoring Mission in former Yugosiavia. Eden, The Honourable Authory Sammel, MLA. 12 For publ. commity and serv in the Cayman Islands. Edder, Alexander Prat, Poice Advises, Brit Development Devision in the Caribbean. Poster, David John, For humanitarum serv, particle Eastern Europe, Fuchs, Mrs. Sonia Berta, For serv commty well as home and overseas, laterly in Russia. Gregory, 12 Col Lionel Rugh Michael. MBE. For new Commonity and overseas, laterly in Russia. Gregory, 12 Col Lionel Rugh Michael. MBE. For new Commonity bouth Hall. Rism Rajde, Pur publ serv in Ber under, Henrich youth Hall. Riggins. Thomas Veton, Por serv Erit expts and to the well of the underprivileged in Publistan. Rusmphries. Anthony Philip, Die, Br Cd, Sund Arabas. Misciel, Ariel Rudolph, Per publ serv. Bursts and Caicos Islands. Noal, Jubn Leefte Wasson, For serv Pirit commit intrists in Bangladesh and to the Rrit commy in Chingogo, Pryde, Roderick Sokes, Lately din Roderick Alles, Lately din Roderick Alles, Lately din For Col Teaching Centre. Hong Rong, Bansay, Roderick Alles, Lately din Roderick Alle

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Abeiderrahmane, Mrs. Nancy, Bon Bris Consul, Nounkehor, Marrianin. Aerschot, Mrs. Geraldine Clair van. Lately see to the eure see, North Atlantic Treaty Organisation. Anderson, Mrs. Geraldine Clair Treaty Organisation. Anderson, Mrs. Helen Effeabeth, Bead, Gen Office, Bris Hight Commit. Camberra. Anderson, Mrs. Luelia Françes. For narrising and welf serv the commit, Kenya. Andrews, Miss Mangpert Rose, Braser sick and traderprivileged children. Zambin. Barlon, Arthur John, Dir of Fisheries, Fulkand Islands Govt. Bell, Miss Josephne Mary. For nursang serv with the European Commit Medical Service. Berg, Goy van den, Pro serv the Brit commty in Portrugal Bieles; Hrs. Molly Patricia. Lately Locally-engaged Offic Hal. Brabassy. Trans. Bird. Sinert Leonard, Lately hd, Logsties Business Unit, PCO. Bochenska, Mrs. Patricia, Lately chen. Red Cross Society. Vanustin. Branshan, Terry, Locally-engaged Continerent Offic Brit Consulate. Gen. Toronto. Bridgewater. Mrs. Gillian Carol, Locally-engaged Accountant and Pro-Consul, Marich, Burges. Stephen, Lately Hon Brit Consul.

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iril lone, Roussièreperr, Cook, Gort House, Turton, Brk Virgin Islands, Dhampi, Dr. Varmin Nathoo, Lately ch Practaloner, Brit Suropean Mechani Clinic, Kiev Doland, Jonathan Patrick, For serv UK-Gatter Irrade. Doughty, Miss Margaret Ann. For serv in promoting basic internay salish for depreved stanicats, USA, Damean, Alistair Charteris, For serv in promoting basic internay salish for depreved stanicats, USA, Damean, Alistair Charteris, For serv in promoting basic internay salish for depreved inducts, USA, Damean, Alistair Charteris, For serv Br.A. Arab understanding. Foresant, Joim, For serv it well of Indupy Dationis, Crockia, Galliano, James Patrick, JF For serv commy well, Garniane Gately, Colm Edwin, For serv H.M. Gowts emergency sid programme. Bossan, George, Eric Mercyn, For serv the commy in the fld of music, St. Heisen, Goddard, Mrs. Mary Elizabeth, For well and counselling serv the English-speaking communities in Pares, Gray, Timothy James, Headmast, Brit School, Scoul Portego, School, Korea.

Hamer, Martin, For serv Brit engring overseas, latterly in India, Barris, Mrs. Elizabeth, Wilton Park Conference Administratur, FCO Haynes, Mrs. Patrica Ruth, Pera asst to the Governor, Bermunta, Buster, Christopher, Founderdrif, Centre for Peacembhring and commy Development, Jita, Mrs. Jennie Alexandra, For bith well serv the socially under-privileged in India, Jones, Miss Catherme Helem Courtier, Dep Ind of Misson, H.M. Embassy, Yurana, Rey, Roger Marcua, For serv the Bottswana Geological Survey, Kim, Dr. Freds Lilian, For charitable serv disabled dilidren, Kimea, Laws, Lawrence Richard, For voluntary counselling serv, Sandi Arabia, Leegett, Simon, James, For serv the commy, Pepua New Guinea, Lyle, Mrs. Margaret Niven, For serv the world of Cheshire Hornes in Swarihand, Masson, Mickolm Alfred Anthony, Brit Schard, For Service Cousul, Amsterdam, and chai, Amsterdam, Pepua New Guinea, Lyle, Mrs. Margaret Niven, For serv the Service Cousul, Amsterdam, Lately Locally-engaged Consumer and Miscon, Proporty Joan, Late

ROYAL NAVY

Order of the Bath Ortoct Of the Execution
Knight Commander (RCB)
Blackhaun, V-Adral Jeremy Joe,
Companion (CB)
Blackhaun, V-Adral David Anthony Jumes, LVO,
Tresty, Rear Adral John Allan,
Knight Grand Cross (BCB)
Abbott, Adral Sir Peter, BCB,

Order of the British Empire JPUC: Un was a common of the c

elift, Commodore Andrew William, OBE, R. Novy.
Officer (OBE)
Barris, Chr Fhilip Norman, R. Navy Hartinell, Maj Stephen Thomas, R. Marines. Boekin, Cdr William Richard John, R. Navy. Bowell, Cdr Keith, R. Navy. Mastick, Cdr David James, R. Navy. Stammonds, Cdr Richard Michael, R. Navy. Thomas, Cdr Gedirey Charles, R. Navy.
Member OffiBS)
Afformled, 1a. Cdr Gjilim Glassford, R. Navy.
Amstin, I. L. Cdr Stewart John, R. Navy. Baldry, Leading Writer David Mark, Barrachough, CPO
Marine Engineering Artificer Steven, Boast, Li
Cdr Mark Thomas, R. Navy. Broom, 1a Meil John,
Queen, Alexandras R. Navy. Rroom, 1a Meil John,
Queen, Alexandras R. Navy. Room, 1a Meil John,
Queen, Alexandras R. Navy. Room, 1a Meil John,
Queen, 1a Chr. Stamon, 1a Meil J. L. Cdr Paul
Prancis, R. Navy. Logm, CPO David William,
Mansell, CPO Simon, John Richard, Murchison,
La Cdr Donald, R. Navy. Room, Repimental
Set Maj Roger, R. Marines, Wilmot, WO Funi
James Vatighan.

Order of the Bath Grant, La Gen Scott Carnegie, CB, Late Corps of R Engineers.
Companion (CB)
Ewee, Maj Gen Graham Anderson, CBE, Late R.
Corps of Drassport, Oliver, Maj Gen Rachard
Arthur, OBE, Late Corps of R Engineers. Short,
Maj Gen William Robert, Late R Army Medical
Corps.

Order of the British Empire Knight Commander (KBE)

Borton, Li Gen Edmind Fortescue Gerard, OBE, Lole R Beginent of Artillery, Commander (CBE) COMMINATORET (C.B.E.)
Burls, Col Timothy William, MC, Lute The Purachute Regiment, Laurie, Brig Michael Ivan, Lute Intelligence Corps, Magga, Col Peter John Tyler, OBE, Lute The & Lopfeir, Corps, Ocalingham, Brig Derrik Michael, Lute (8th/Sib The Queens R. Luncers, Price, Bridgader Christopher Keith, Lute (8th/Sib The Golden Corps, College Corps, Ocalingham, Lute (8th/Sib The Golden Corps, Parkel L. 10th/Sibbard Corps, The P. London Corps, Parkel L. 10th/Sibbard Corps, The P. London Corps.

Officer (OBE)
Bird LI Col Richard Gram, The R Logistic Corps.
Brissiaw, Acting Col Derek Henry, Cambainer
Army Cadet Furce, Carpill, LI Col John James,
Seets Guards, Crowe, LI Col Julian Edward
Michael Scots Guards, Harking, LI Col Anthony Dumaan, Corps of R Engancers, Henderson,
LI Col In Frazer Gresseys, Intelligence Corps.
Kemp, LI Col Bugh Alaciair, Corps of R Electrical
and Mechanical Engineers, Lomdon, LI Col
Alasdar William Buds, The Black Warte, MacBoundd, LI Col John, R Corps of Signals, Parish,
LI Col Michael Charles, MBE, The Kings Regiment, Paterson, LI Col Michael Geddes, Corps
of R Engineers, Petics, LI Col Anthony, Michael
Purniss, The R Irish Regimens, Price, LI Col
David Evan, Corps of Army Music, Stewens, LI
Col David Charles, Corps of R Engineers.
Member (MBE)

Member (MBE)

Allan, Maj Devid Lestie, R Regiment of Artillery.

Armitage, Maj David Stephen, Curps of R Engineers. Bawden, Maj Peter Charles, R Corps of Signals, Bayston. Capt Robert Bissett, The R Logistic Corps. Blanks, Maj Jan James, Corps of R Engineers. Batt. Maj Gregory Lovering, R Regiment of Artillery Collingswood. Staff Sq. Lawrence, Adjutam Gens Corps. Collister, WO Class? Regiment of Artillery Collingswood. Staff Sq. Lawrence, Adjutam Gens Corps. Collister, WO Class? Regiment. Cruickshouk. Maj Paul Melvin. The Hightninders. Datison. Capt Friedlix Nelom Kwame, R Hegiment of Artillery. Davides, Maj Roger, BEM, The R Logistic Corps. Dehnel. Capt Stephen Howwood, Grenadiar Gaurds, Denhels, WO Class? Patrick John, Corps of R Engineers. Dupcan, WO Class? I William Kess, The B Logistic Corps. Fartelly, Maj Patrick Douglas, R Regiment of Artillery, Terntorial Army, Gaskin, Staff Sg. Stephen Harold, Corps of R Edectrical and Mechanical Engineers. Golesto, Col Euton Wellesley, Corps of R Engineers. Goodman, Maj Richord Thomas, Adjutant Member (MBÉ)

Hall, WICLESS 1, Judowe Workla, Army Art Corps. Hall, Maj James William. The Light Infantry. Hawkstworth, WO Class 2 arthuny, Adjutant Gens. Corps. Hearn, Staff Sg. Kotth, Adjutant Gens. Corps. Hearn, WO Class 2 Stanter, The Rightenders, Ioosa, Maj Christopher John. Army Air Corps. Lresan, WO Class 2 Christopher Lee. Corps. of Remjuncers. Jarman, WO Class 2 Stanton David. The R Logistic Corps. Jeanes. Arting Capt Feter Alan, Berkshire Army Cade Furce, Jeang, Capt Machet R. Army Medical Corps.

Ehart, Colour Sg. Vambabadur The R Gurkha Rifles, Kinnever, Colour Sg. Katholl Findley, Scotts Guorda Lane, Maj Barry Kenmeth Edward. The Princess of Waless R Regument, Territornal Army, Lowder, Maj George, Edward, The R Logistic Corps. McAilliam, Staff Sg. Retmeth James, R Regument of Artillery Monahan, WO Class 1 Mevin, Corps of R Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, Parke, Staff Sg. Terroce, R Carps of Sgnals, Penniall, WO Class 2 Devid Peter, BEM, Adjutant Gens Corps. Potts, WO Class 3 Charles Heary, BEM, Adjutant, Gens Corps. Prince, WO Class 1 Graham. The Nings Our R Border Regiment, Reade, WO Class 2 Kesh Mervyn, The R Glowcestershire, Berkshire and Wilshure Regiment, Territorial Army, Sonderson, Maj Inn. The Life Guards, Shercham, La Rajendar, The R Gurkha Rifles, Smith, Bonharther Steven John, R Regiment, Gerdiner, Corps of R Engineers, Stoddart, Maj Gavin Neil Maeleed, BEM, The R Highhand Resiliers, Sminnersett, Oplewer, Wolfender, Maj Lovin Neil Maeleed, BEM, The R Highhand Resiliers, Sminnersett, Oplewer, Tor R R Regiment of Pusiners, Wool, Sg. Barry Richard, R Task Regiment,

ROYAL AIR FORCE

Order of the Bath Knight Commander (ECB) Day, A M John Rouney, OBE, R Air Force, Companion (CB)
Goodell, Air Vice Marshal Ruderick Harvey
CBE, AFC, But, R Air Force, Turner, The Vice
crable Peter Robin. Order of the British Empire Commander (CBE)
Batchelus, Gp Capt Anthony John, R Air Force,
Coopen, A Udre Christophier Porrest, R. Air
Force.

Officer (OBE)

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F. Sq. Christopher John, B. Edd, R. Air Force, Chief
Gilds, F. Sq. Leonard Collo, R. Air Force, Lawn, Sq.
Lar David Llouel, R. Air Force, Macellichie, Cal
William John, R. Air Force, Marchitchie, Sq.
Ldr
Michael Hayda, R. Air Force, Marchitchie, Sq.
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Michael, R. Air Force, McKernin, Sq. Ldr Michael
Joseph, R. Air Force, McKernin, Sq. Ldr Michael
Joseph, R. Air Force, Norris, Wo lam Mirray, R.
Air Force, Ormerod, Sq. Ldr Charles, Andrew, R.
Air Force, Condon, F. Sq. Geoffrey Malcolm, R.
Air Force, Stook, FB L2 Paul, R. Air Force, StrilingSon, Cpl Thomas Vincent, R. Air Force, StrilingJames Walsson, R. Air Force, Wytte, F. Sq.
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Queen's Police Medal

QРМ Gorton, Constable, North John Scherrer, Constability Clarke, David Lieyi, Agishtani ch Constable, West Yarkshure Police, Cooper, Desmond letum Rhys, Detective Constable, Devon and Corusall Constable Constable, Devon and Corusall Constabluary Crumpton, David James, Detective ch Irisp, Meh Police Information Technology Organization Custang, Graham Alfred Frank, Chief Superintendent, Avon and Somerset Constablury Flood, Bran Douglas, Detective ch Superintendent, Kent Crity Constabluary Ganapaa, Roger Dir Intelligence, National Criminal Intelligence Service, Gilbertson, David Edward Michael, Assistant Insp of Constabluary II LM Inspain of Constabluary Ganapaa, Constabluary Holding, Constabluary Manchester Police, Harthress, Mics. Jillam Roseman; Detective Constable, Wilkhire Constabluary Bolding, Ian Assistant ch Constabluary Bol Jilhan Rosemary, Detective Constable, Witshire Constabulary Bolding, Ixn. Assistant ch Constabulary Bolding, Ixn. Assistant ch Constabulary, Bolding, Ixn. Assistant ch Constabulary, Bolding, Ixn. Assistant ch Constabulary, McKee, Stephen Robert Constable, Met Pol. Mouzer, Robin Douglas, Constable, West Midlands, Poles, Rogers, Garry Wayne, Detective Constable, Greater Manchestur Police, Shields, Mrs. Gillian, Constable, Curnhara Constabulary, Smythe, Michael Raymond, Supermiendent, Met Pol. Wallance, Eric, Ch Const. Sovereign Base Areas Police, Cyprus, Whent, Peter John, Laterly Detective ch Supermiendent, Bril Transport Police. Woollons, Norman George, Irsp., Humbersder Police, Cuprus, Elichael David, Dep ch Constable, Central Scotland Police, Duscan, John constable, Central Scolland Police, Damean, John Lawrence, Assistant of Constable, Strathriyde Police, Fraser, James, chm. Scottish Police Ped-cration, Napier, Cralg Galbrath, Imp. Strathchyde Police, Fitzpatrick, Bernard, Superintendern, R. Ulster Constability; Kyle, William Dougan, Locky Detective hasp, R. Ulster, Constability, Mo-niz, Harvid Stephen, Dep comme, Bernanda Po-los Service: Simons, Campbell DeCosta, Latoly Structuledent of Police, Recorded Police Ser-

Queeo's Fire Service Medal

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Colonial Police and Fire Ser-

**CPM** Adams. Carlton Eugene, Detortive ch Insp. Bermuda Police Service, Smith, Jonathan David, Chief irsp, Bermuda Police Service, White, Sin-chir Harold, Chief insp, Bermuda Police Service,

# Prices set for a drop - eventually

THE ACID test of the success of By DIANE COYLE the euro will be whether its Economics Editor launch creates a genuine single European market. For only if there is a real increase in competition, boosting business and cutting prices for concy generate all of its promised

economic benefits. first 11 countries to join will want to be able to judge quite quickly whether the euro is having an impact where it mat- to a single currency will boost ters - on their wallets. Some ex-perts are predicting widespread spending power in two ways. First, with everything priced in outbreaks of price wars.

scope for competition sending prices downwards. An internal Treasury report last March, which formed the basis of further investigations by the European Commission, found huge disparities in prices between countries.

Some of these variations have already achieved notoriety thanks to consumer pressure. Cars, for one. A report by the commission last year found that a Fiat Punto cost 21.4 per cent less in France than in the UK, a Renault Megane was 22 per cent cheaper in Germany, while a larger car such as the VW Passat was 14 per cent cheaper in France.

In some items, however, UK continental counterparts. For power. example, CDs sell for about 15 per cent less here than in France. But, of course, they are prices for equivalent goods and services in the United States.

Only for a handful of items, such as clothing and footwear, are British prices among the EU's lowest. For others, including housing and transport,

they are about the highest. Bank charges are substan-

tially lower in the UK than over the Channel, at £18 a year for an account in credit compared with £35 in Germany and £88 in sumers, will the single curren- France. This advantage reflects precisely the fact that British high street banking is far more The 300 million citizens of the competitive - and demonstrates the scale of gains that could lie ahead for consumers.

The theory is that the switch euros, it will be easier to com-There is certainly plenty of pare prices because the tags will no longer have different currencies on them. People will become more willing to cross borders to shop, especially for expensive items. And that goes for Britons too, even though the UK is staying out of the first wave of membership.

Differences in VAT rates and sales duties complicate the comparison. But there can be little doubt that consumer pressure will force manufacturers to adjust their prices and, probably, will force governments to bring taxes more closely into line. The willingness of British consumers to spend a day on the cross-Channel ferries simply to buy cheaper alcohol and tobacco is a vivid demonstration shoppers do better than their of the potential consumer

Francesca Arcidiaco, of the Consumers' Association, says: "We do expect the increased cheaper still in the bigger and transparency and increased more competitive American competition to drive prices market. Only about a quarter of down," She adds, however, that British prices are lower than it will oot happeo right away, and that the impact on the UK will be indirect.

The second result of the launch of the euro will be to make it easier for businesses to take advantage of economies of scale. Experts at the National Institute for Ecocomic and Social Research in London found well as higher profits.



A Frankfurt trader yesterday surveying a sign announcing "The euro comes' on the last stock market session of the year

that much of the difference in productivity levels between US factories and European ones was the fact that the former had much bigger production runs thanks to their larger market. As long as euroland does become a genuine single market, that boost to productivity from scale should translate into a

How quickly this might all happen is another matter. It is not until 2002 that the new notes and coins will be introduced, so prices will continue to be displayed in national currencies as well as euros.

Many businesses are waiting to see what others do before changing their own prices. Rebetter deal for customers, as tailers are under no compulsion to accept euros before

1 January 2002, although those signing up will be entitled to display the official "We accept euros" stickers.

Meanwhile, they put a higher priority on dealing with questions such as how to convert a DM1.99 price, which will be the equivalent of euros1.02, without being accused of prof-The European Commission has

suggested retailers might try to get a competitive edge by launching "rounding down" campaigns. The Commission has set up observatories in each country to monitor price changes after the launch of the single currency.

To start with there is likely to be too little familiarity with iteering from the changeover the oew currency for the fresh wind of competition to blow all

the cobwebs off the European economy. The UK will not feel the full force until it joins, anyway. Other obstacles to lower prices will persist, especially for products such as fine perfumes or cars, where the distribution system is tightly controlled by the makers, so that competition

is pretty weak anyway. In addition, cultural influences will continue to divide the

ing preferences for everything - from whether a washing machine should be top or frontloading, to how much spice should be in sausages.

The Germans spend a higher proportion of their incomes on hygiene products, the Belgians splash out on accessories and Britons are the keenest buyers of books, newspapers and stationery. There is no such thing - yet - as the harmonised euro consumer.

Thus while some manufacturers, such as Procter & Gamble and Allied Domecq, are opting for European-wide brands and prices others, including Unilever, and also retailers such as Marks & Spencer, have indicated they will continue to set prices according to the local conditions.

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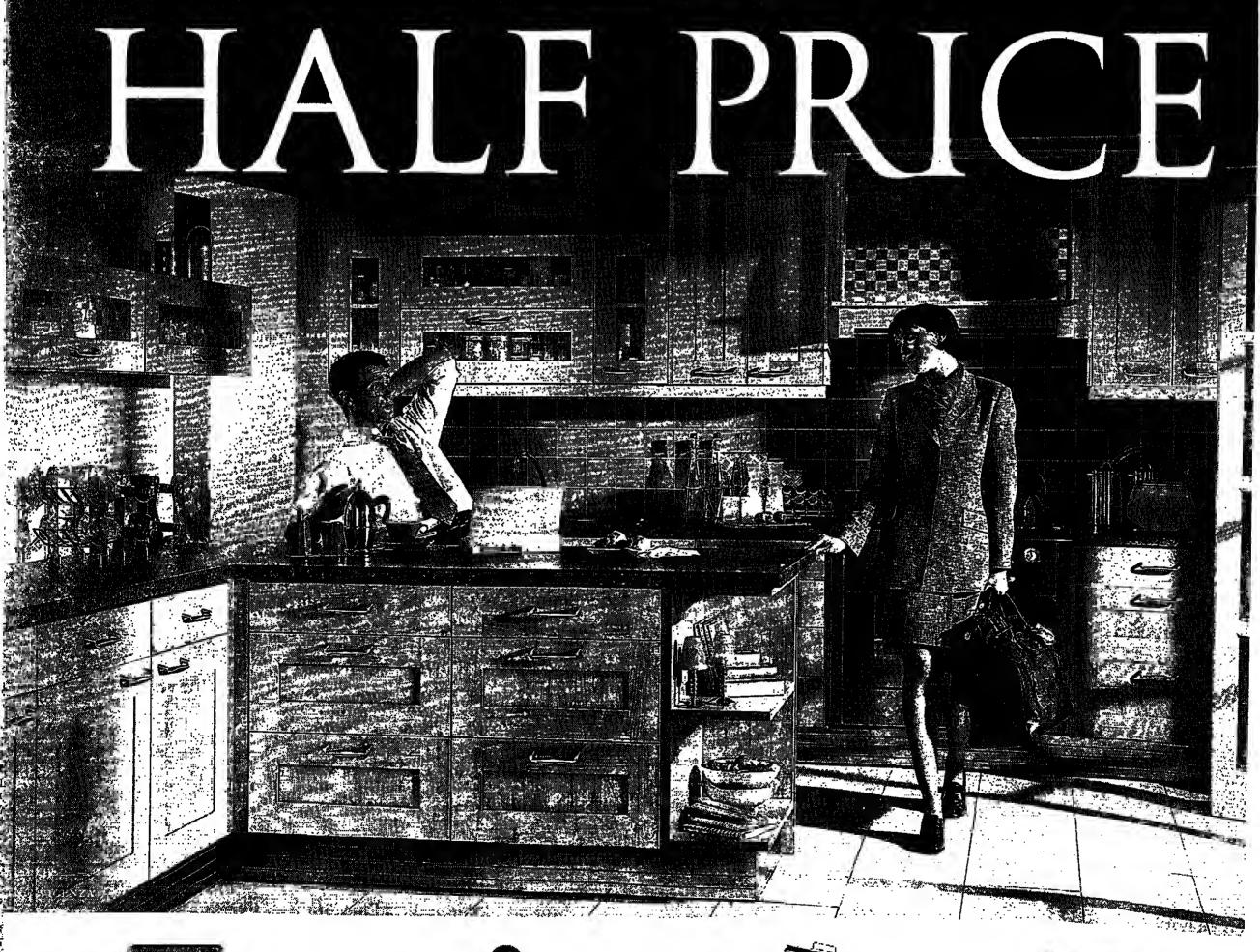
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But there is no question that pressure will build to tear down artificial barriers to pan-

European sales. Take exclusive distribution networks for products such as expensive perfumes or pharmaceuticals, or regulations on the origins of food products. These will be in the front line of competition. Pressure from producers for protection from pan-European competitors explains those classic euro-scare stories about whether, say, cheese is only "feta" if it is made in Greece, whereas cheddar can be made anywhere. An EU directive in your favour is one of the best ways of protecting your market.

In the end, though, the grand single currency project will have failed if the average. everyday European shopper does not have a wider choice at lower prices in the coming years. Its economic success and its political support will depend, ultimately, on what the euro in your pocket will buy. Letters.

Review, page 2





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# Republicans start fight for White House

AS AMERICA looks forward to By Andrew Marshall the 2000 presidential elections. the first Republican candidate has broken cover John McCain, a Senator from Arizona, is the first to take formal steps towards a candidacy and others

will follow in the next few days. Senator McCain filed papers yesterday with the Federal Electioo Commission to establish the John McCain for Pres-

ident Exploratory Committee. The 62-year-old senator is known in America as a moderate within the increasingly conservative party, and for that reason may have problems finding a secure base in the party's grass roots.

He is a veteran of the Vietnam War, and spent five years as a prisoner-of-war.

Though he is a conservative. Mr McCain is seen as fiercely independent, and is well-liked heyond the party. He was behind this year's attempt to pass a Bill regulating the tobacco industry and an effort to clean up campaign finance, both of which were shot down, largely by his own side.

Mr McCain will have plenty of strong support from colleagues in Washington, as he is considered to he a political heavyweight and ooe of the most hooest men in politics. "Many many Republicans and Americans yearn for a new kind of leadership," said Warren Rudman, the committee coin Washington

senator. "John McCain is unique in his ability to offer cooservative, independent, experieoced leadership." But his independence antagonises other colleagues, who consider him a loose cannon

Next week another hut very



McCain: First Republican candidate for President

different Republican Senator is also likely to make his move. John Ashcroft of Missouri is a religious conservative with close links to two of the most influential figures in the oew Religious Right, Gary Bauer and James Dobson.

The Republican Party has become dominated by hardline southern conservatives, hut this year's Coogressional the scandal surrounding President Bill Clinton have left it bat-Chairman and himself a former tered and hleeding. The have exhausted themselves.

primaries to select candidates do not start until 2000, but candidates will want to move smartly to establish their ground and secure funding.

One reason why Republicans are moving early is that Steve Forbes, the hillionaire magazine publisher who spent \$30m on an aborted campaign in 1996, is likely to declare soon and he has boundless funding.

The former vice-presideot Dan Quayle, former governor of Tennessee Lamar Alexander and former senator Jack Kemp are all waiting in the wings. The Governor of Texas, George W Bush, soo of the former presideot George Bush, has said he will oot decide whether to run until the spring.

The race for the candidacy will be hard-fought, with Mr Bush the present front-runner in terms of popular support and name recognition, but plenty of others have more hacking among the party's most important supporters.

Money will be the key. A candidate, to be serious, oeeds about \$20m. This will be little problem for Mr Forbes, and Mr Bush also stands a good chance of huilding fighting funds quickly hut others may struggle. It could be that candidates spend so much money and fight so hard in the prielections and the furore over maries that, by the time they reach the Presidential election in November 2000, they will

Nkem Chukwu (centre) with her husband, lyke Louis Udobi, and her mother, Janet Chukwu, in Houston yesterday

# Octuplets are a blessing, says mother

THE MOTHER of the world's By ANDREW GUMBEL first successfully delivered octuplets was released from hospital in Texas yesterday, saying she felt great, despite the stresses of a highly traumatic pregnancy and the anxious struggle for survival that has claimed the life of her smallest

"It wasn't easy," Nkem copal Hospital in Houston in her in Los Angeles

did it for the love I have for

Ms Chukwu has spent the past three mooths in hospital. She refused doctors' offers to abort one, or two, of the foetuses to improve the chances of the others, "I've never seen Chukwu said at St Luke's Epis- such a word in my Bible," she said. "I wasn't even going to first public appearance, "but I give it a thought, a second

thought." At a press conference, and the others by Caesarean ing or cysts in their hrains. It sitting in a wheelchair, she told section on 20 December. was described as "dramatic reporters to stand up and give thanks to God for her successful delivery. "I am blessed, I

support and prayers," she said. For six weeks she was coofined to bed, and for three weeks she lay with her head tipped to the floor at a sharp angle. The first of her children - two hoys and six girls - was

thank the whole world for their

The smallest, a girl named Odera who weighed just 10.3oz. died last Sunday. The heaviest child weighed 26oz at hirth.

The children are still in a "critical" condition at the specialist neonatology unit at Texas Children's Hospital, also in Houston. Three are on ventilators, but the others arehreathing on their own. An ultrasound born normally on 8 December, revealed that they had no bleed-

was described as "dramatic good news" since that would be a sign of future neurological problems. Doctors put their survival at about 92 per cent and they are likely to stay in hospital until their normal due date,

around 1 April. Donations have been flooding in to help the family. At the family's request no photographs or videotapes of the hables have been released.

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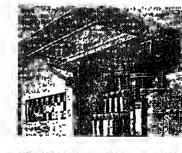
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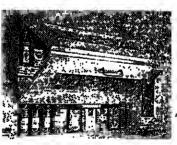
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#### THE RACE FOR PRIME MINISTER



BENJAMIN NETANYAHU

Failed to get necessary support over Wye Accord. but is a skilled and devious campaigner who will fight an aggressive campaign Age: 49

Party: Likud Chances: Down in polls but don't write him off



**EHUD BARAK** 

Israel's most decorated warrior and a firm supporter of the peace process. Is standing on a platform of national reconcillation . Age: 56 Party: Labour Chances: Good, but still has



**AMNON SHAHAK** 

A political novice who has spent most of his life in uniform. Personal charisma may not be enough Age: 54 Party: Doesn't yet have a party; a centrist Chances: Sporting - a

serious contender



DAN MERIDOR

Pragmatic right-winger who is a realist on the peace ... process. He argues that there is no going back. Wants to run with Shahak Party: Likud defector, now a

Chances: Slim



BENNY BEGIN

Son of Menachem. Believes Israel should control atl. Israel's biblical territories. Will challenge Netanyahu from the right Age: 55. Party: Likud defector Chances: None, but could split the right:



UZI LANDAU

Senior backbencher; an unreconstructed hardliner and Likud traditionalist who will challenge Netanyahu from within the party Age: 55 Party: Likud Chances: Negligible



ARIEL SHARON

Former hard-driving general. Defence Minister during the if Bibi stumbles-

Age: 70 Party: Likud Chances: Still hovering as an alternative to Netanyahu



RAFAEL EITAN

Rough-hewn former chief of staff, his party is Lebanese war. Is propping up really a personal vehicle Netanyahu, but could step in for his own right-wing nationalist and secularist agenda Age: 69

Party: Isomet Chances: Nil

# Israeli election rivals make early start

ISRAEL WILL go to the polls on BY ERIC SILVER 17 May. That much is clear, but who the runners and riders will be remains murky. So far, six candidates have entered the field for prime minister, but

others may join the race. The 1999 elections will be the first time Israelis have had more than two competing candidates. If no one takes more than 50 per cent of the vote, a second ballot will follow on 1

The three main contenders are: Benjamin Netanyahu, the Likud incumbent whose coalition of seven right-wing and religious parties bas disintegrated after only two-and-ahalf years: Ehud Barak, Labour

in Jerusalem

to prove himself

opposition leader, a former chief of staff and Israel's most decorated warrior, and Amnon Shahak, another top general who plans to run at the head of a centre party.

The opinion polls put Mr Shahak ahead in a straight contest with either of the other two, but trailing both of the other front runners in a threesided race. In an attempt to win over so-called oriental Jewisb voters, Mr Barak has recruited David Levy: the Moroccan-born former Likud foreign minister, to his cause.

The Likud and Labour party

ing the campaign to five months they are giving Mr Shahak enough time to make mistakes. Although he retired as chief of staff in the summer, be officially hung up his uniform only last week. He has yet to announce the name of his new party, its programme or its other members.

Both the main parties fear his disruptive effect. The Likud is smearing him as a "leftist", while Labour has condemned him for splitting the left-wing vote and trying to parachute straight from 40 years in the army into the top spot in politics.

Decorated with ranks and medals though he may be, Sha-

machines hope that by stretch- hak is a man in his mid-fifties who has not lived even one day as an ordinary citizen," a former Labour minister, Yossi Beilin, wrote in The Jerusalem Post. "While I salute him, I am not prepared to take the risk, just as no one would be prepared to be a passenger in an aircraft that I was piloting before I had learnt to fly."

Mr Barak has not yet given up hope of persuading his former army deputy to join him as Labour's prospective minister of defence, but Mr Shahak seems determined to win on his own. Although he sbares Labour's commitment to the peace process with the Palestinians, he is not convinced

that Labour under Mr Barak mise," he argues, "but where as science minister in protest can make it.

Three Likud rebels have announced they are challenging Mr Netanyahu. They are Dan Meridor, who resigned 18 months ago as finance minister. Benny Begin, son of the party's founder and former prime minister Menachem Begin; and Uzi Landau, chairman of the parliamentary foreign affairs and defence committee.

Mr Meridor says he will run at the head of a new centre party. He represents the pragmatic right, which recognises that the Oslo and Wye agreements with the Palestinians have changed the political map. "There has to be a compro-

we draw the demarcation line is open to negotiation."

His main quarrel with Mr Netanyahu is over his leadership style. "While facing the most difficult and important negotiations in our history," he says, "we come to the table with a leadership that doesn't have an ounce of credibility left. We are represented by someone nobody believes in.

Mr Meridor would like to run in harness with his fellow centrist Mr Shahak, but neither has so far conceded the number one position to the other. They share a reputation for decency and a hatred of Mr Netanyahu, Benny Begin, who resigned Hebron, is challenging Mr Netanyahu from the right. He is still waving his father's banner for a "Greater Israel" and will campaign on a platform of opposition to the Oslo accord. His chances are slim. Uzi Landau, another unreconstructed hardliner, is run-

at the January 1997 withdrawal

from the West Bank city of

ning against Mr Netanyahu for the Likud leadership. The party's 3,000-member central committee will choose its candidate for prime minister on 25 January. It is expected to adopt Mr Netanyahu again.

Two disaffected Likud ministers are also weighing their

options, either to run against Mr Netanyahu or to join a Shahak-Meridor centre party. They are the Defence Minister, Yitzhak Mordechai, who wants to accelerate the peace

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PICTURES

process, and the Communications Minister, Limor Livnat. the only woman in the cabinet, who wants to slow it down. hovering on the borizon is the recently appointed Foreign

An unexpected contender Minister, Ariel Sharon, at 70 another old soldier, who said enigmatically on Monday that "if the circumstances were right" be would not rule himself out. Mr Sharon is keeping his powder dry in case Mr Netanyahu's campaign falls apart.







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## Balloon to circle globe at 130,000ft

THE MOST innovative attempt By JAKE LYNCH yet to circle the world in a balloon is due to lift off from here this evening. Loodon time.

The joint American-Australian missioo will follow the Tropic of Capricorn at a cruising altitude of 130,000ft. about 25 miles. The three pilots. a reporter, an estate ageot and a professional balloonist from Wiltsbire, will wear space suits oauts as their flight takes them

to the edge of space. John Wallington, the balloonist, who emigrated to Australia at the age of 10, said: "A lot of people say, 'You're absolutely crazy', but if I said I didn't want to do it, there would be a queue of people waiting to

take my place. The mission's technology is based on Nasa weather balin Alice Springs

loons which, from the Sixties, were launched into the stratosphere from Alice Springs.

The high-altitude attempt will avoid the capricious atmospheric airflows that ended previous hids, including Richard Branson's last week.

Mission controller Dan Peden who founded the famous "Top Gun" academy for US fighter pilots, came on board because "this is the last great

adventure in aviation". The idea was hatched five years ago by Bob Martin, a television science reporter from New Mexico. He will make the attempt with Mr Wallingt and Dave Liniger, chairman of Remax International, the world's biggest estate agent.

### China arrests another high-profile dissident

CHINA'S BIGGEST crackdown on dissidents for three years is likely to claim another highprofile victim, Wang Ce, a leader of the Alliance of Democratic

Parties, which is based abroad. Mr Wang, 50, was granted political asylum in Spain but lives in the US and smuggled himself back into China. He has been charged with endangering state security, providing finance for criminal acts and entering the country illegally. The charges carry a maximum sentence of life imprisonment.

BY STEPHEN VINES in Hong Kong

Mr Wang was arrested after visiting Wang Youcai, one of the leaders of the China Democ racy Party, which has been the focus of the dissident round-up. Last week Wang Youcai was given an 11-year sentence for his role in establishing an opposition party:

Although tiny, the new opposition party has alarmed the Peking authorities because it appears to have a nationwide base.



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Children of inmates at a Russian women's prison are given toys by the Minister of Justice, Pavel Krasheninnikov, during a new year party yesterday. The children are staying with their mothers at the prison, near Mozhaisk, 60 miles west of Moscow

AP

# Home movie moves Russia

RUSSIAN TELEVISION, like its BY HELEN WOMACK British counterpart, shows in Moscow many repeats of comedies that were hardly funny in the first place. Moscow's video kiosks. meanwhile, offer little more than pirate copies of American kick-hoxing and gangster

But Russians are raving about one new film and they are proud of the fact that, despite the decline of their cinema industry, it was made in Moscow.

Land of the Deaf appeared n the big screen earlier this year and won several awards in Russia. It was directed by Valery Todorovsky, a young man whose humanity and faith orove not everyone is bad or mad and not all is lost in this country that produces so much

Rita, who manages to run away when Russian gangsters capture her boyfriend, Alyosha, and torture him for nonpayment of a deht. Rita is hefriended by a deaf girl called Yaya, who has also suffered at the hands of hrutal men. In her strange sign language and hroken speech, Yaya tells Rita that somewhere, far away, there is a heautiful "land of the deaf" where they can find peace and happiness.

Rita is drawn back to her boyfriend, who belongs to the world of violence. By experimenting as a prostitute, then hy working as a "translator" for a deaf gangster, she manages to raise enough The film tells the story of money to pay off Alyosha's debt on a boat that is normally a everything is over," he said.

hut her good-for-nothing boyfriend loses it all gamhling.

The film ends with a shootout between the deaf gangster's gang and the bandits holding Alyosha. Rita either loses her hearing from the noise of gunfire or chooses to seem deaf, and finally accepts Yaya's invitation of asylum in the land of the deaf.

Escaping in this way appears to mean rejecting the horror and violence of modern Russia, where mafia crime has made life cheap. "The land of the deaf could also be the inner self, the life of the spirit," said Todorovsky in an interview. "But if you choose to take it that way, I won't argue with you."

Land of the Deaf was made on a relatively small hudget. Much of the action takes place

floating restaurant on the Moscow River, Todorovsky's private company, Racoonfilm, rents office space at Mosfilm, the ramhling, old state complex that in better times used to he Russia's

After making Land of the Deaf, his third hig movie, Todorovsky, 36, son of the director Pyotr Todorovsky, was feeling optimistic about the chances for a revival of Russian cinema. Then the economic crisis struck.

answer to Hollywood.

"Cinema needs stability. It takes at least a year to make a film and you need audiences with money in their pockets to enjoy it. Now, it seems we are back at square one. Yet, I remain an optimist. I love my profession. I cannot live with the feeling that

For the time being, he is surviving by making films for television, based on the detective novels of Alexandra Marinina, a policewoman turned popular thriller writer,

He rejects the idea of emigrating, as he says a filmmaker needs to work in his own language. Yet he loves foreign cinema, especially British

Todorovsky first made his name with a 1991 movie called Love about a romance between a Russian boy and a Jewish girl. With anti-Semitism on the rise in Russia and a growing neofascist movement, this could not he more relevant. For Todorovsky, differences of race and creed are unimportant and there are only two nationalities: those who hate and

# A city becoming less Orthodox every day

**FRONTLINE** 

Greeks have moved to the sub-

urbs. Only priests remain.

"Fener has become an en-

clave of fundamentalist Mus-

lims," Fr Tarasios says.

"Sometimes they walk past

the Patriarchate, shaking

their fists. They throw rubbish

Patriarch stays in Istanbul

and doesn't move to Greece.

Fr Tarasios: Greeks feel

like second-class citizens

People don't realise how long

we've been here - far longer

church was established in the

city AD36 by St Andrew, one of

the 12 Apostles. The Ottoman

Turks did not gain control of

in Istanbul with English as a

first language, Fr Tarasios

does a lot of translation work.

In the afternoons he takes vis-

itors on tours of the churches

in Fener. Before leaving the

Patriarchate, he must change

into a suit. Under Turkey's

secular constitution, religious

dress is forbidden in public.

As the only Orthodox priest

The Patriarchate claims the

than the Turks."

the city until 1453.

"I'm often asked why the

into the courtyard.

Greek quarter.

IT IS Ramadan in Istanbul and the Islamic call to prayer echoes over the city. But on Sunday mornings, mingled with the Arabic chanting, the sound of church bells can be heard. In the middle of this sprawling city of more than 10 million Muslims, the Patriarch of Constantinople is celebrating Holy Communion. as his predecessors have done

for almost 2,000 years.

The Patriarch is usually assisted by his two deacons. One of them, Father Tarasios, preaches in Greek but his first language is English.

"I grew up in Texas. One day I'm going to write a book and call it A Texan in Constantinople," he laughs. His grandparents emigrated from Greece to the United States. where Fr Tarasios became an Orthodox priest, "People ask me why I came here. In the US I had everything: my own house, a nice car. But what I didn't have was to be at the centre of Orthodoxy, Now I've hecome a part of everything I read about."

The Patriarch of Constantinople is the spiritual head of the world's Orthodox churches. But while he is spiritual leader to nearly 300 million Christians worldwide, today the Patriarch's own diocese of Greek Christians in Istanhul has dwindled to only 3,000.

Istanhul was once legendary for its mix of races and Greeks still call it by its old Greek name, Constantinople. But today the Greeks are leaving. "We don't even have enough people left to look after the churches," says Fr Tarasios, "I wish they'd stay, hut I understand why they don't. They feel like secondclass citizens here. They even have to be qulet speaking Greek in the streets, in case they offend somebody."

At St Dimitrios, a beautiful Fr Tarasios lives and works old church full of valuable in the Patriarchate complex in icons, only four services are

the Fener, or Phanar, district held a year. "There aren't enough priests to hold any of the old city, the historic more," he says. "There are Now the few remaining

only 50 priests left in Istanbul." As we arrive at another church, two Muslim women shyly leave. They have come to drink Holy Water from the church, which is believed to cure infertility.

"Lots of Muslims come like this," says Fr Tarasios. "Newly wed couples come to the priests for a hlessing, they helieve it's more powerful than a blessing from an imam. You could say it's just superstition, but it shows they're aware of the Christian faith."

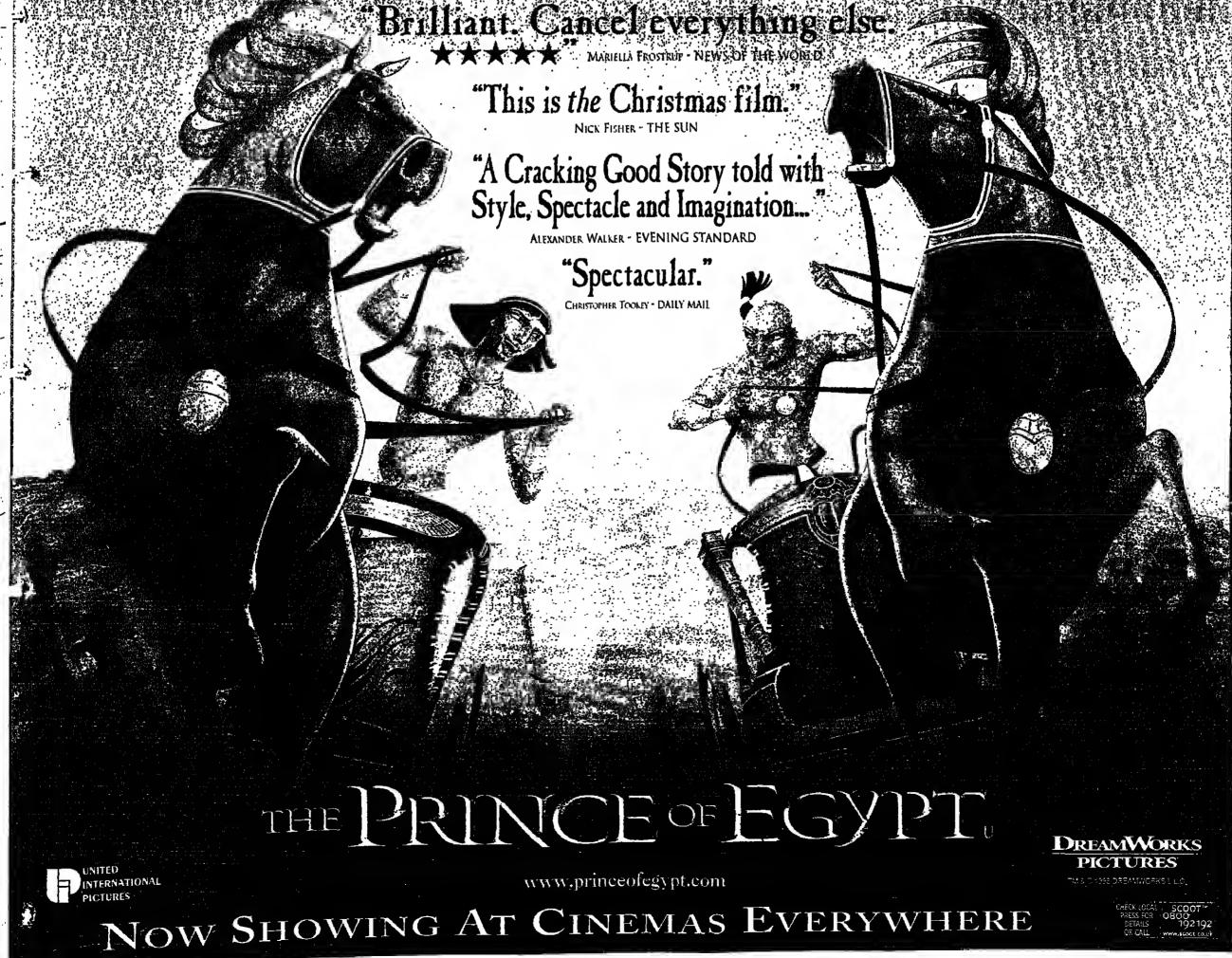
Fr Tarasios calls on Father Vassileios, the priest responsible for the churches in this area. There are no parish ioners left and, of the services Fr Vassileios holds, most are funerals.

The Turkish authorities are causing problems for the Patriarchate. They closed down Turkey's only Orthodox theological school in 1971. "Without the theological school we can't train priests from the community here," Fr Tarasios says. "How will we train future Patriarchs?" Under Turkish law, the Patriarch must be a Turkish citizen.

At Christmas the Patriarch's cathedral was full. Before the Ottoman conquest the domed church of Hagia Sophia was the Patriarch's cathedral, hut today the Patriarch has a new, smaller cathedral in Fener. Exchanging of gifts takes place on St Basil's Day, 1 January.

The last Greek families of Istanhul will start the day hy dividing the new year's bread. a giant loaf. Slices will he cut for Christ, the Virgin Mary, for St Basil and for the Patriarch. Then the hread will be shared out. But every year. there are fewer Greeks left in Istanbul to share it.

**JUSTIN HUGGLER** 



# BUSINESS

#### **BRIEFING**

#### Chandler to replace Hambro at GRE

LORD HAMBRO, the chairman of Guardian Royal Exchange, yesterday said that he would step down in April 1999 and be replaced by Sir Colin Chandler, currently a non-executive director of the insurance company, which put itself up for sale in November. Lord Hambro, who has been a member of the board since 1968, and chairman since 1988, said that he was sad to be leaving the company after 30 years. "I know that I will be leaving it in good hands. Sir Colin has made a significant contribution to the group."

#### Duisenberg says he won't retire



WIM DUISENBERG, the controversial president of the European Central Bank, yesterday dashed France's expectations that he would step down halfway through his eightyear term of office. At the time of his

appointment last May Mr Duisenberg said he did not wish to serve out the full term, in a move seen as a compromise with France.

To the annoyance of other countries, it had been pushing its own candidate for the job.

However, he has never confirmed the Freoch interpretation, and when asked whether he intended to leave after four years, the outspoken Dutchman told Le Monde, in an interview published today ahead of the launch of the euro: "I had hoped you would not ask this question. The answer is no." Separately, Mr Duisenberg said yesterday that no change in euro interest rates should be expected soon. All participating countries have reduced their key interest rates to 3 per cent during the past month.

#### Fast-food giants plan opening spree BURGER KING and US giant McDonald's yesterday unveiled

plans to accelerate their expansion programmes in 1999. Burger King, the fast-food arm of Diageo, the food and drinks conglomerate, plans to open 100 new outlets and create 3,500 new full and part-time jobs in 1999, compared with 70 new hranches and 2,500 new jobs in 1998.

McDonald's, the market leader in the UK industry, said it had opened just under 100 outlets in 1998 and plans to open 100 more outlets next year. McDonald's, which will celebrate its 25th anniversary in the UK in 1999, said it would invest £100m, creating 5,000 jobs and hringing its national total to just over 1,000 outlets and 60,000 jobs.

STOCK MARKETS

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TSE 100 5882,60 -58.90 -0.99 6183,7	4599.20 3.20

Index	Close	Change	Change [%]	52 wk high	52 mk low Y	ield (%)
FTSE 100	5882,60	·58.90	-0,99	6183,70	4599,20	3.20
FTSE 250	4854,70	17.20	0.23	5970.90	4247,60	4.76
FTSE 350	2772.40	-22.40	-0,80	2969.10	2210.40	3.43
FTSE All Share	2673.92	-20.09	-0.75	2886.52	2143.53	3.48
FTSE_SmallCap	2070,90	9.20	0.45	2793.B0	1834,40	4.06
FTSE Fledgling	1146.40	2.90	0.25	1517.10	1046.20	0.00
FTSE AIM	801.60	4.30	0.54	1146.90	761,30	0.00
FTSE EBLOC 100	998.29	-2.35	-0.24			
Dow Jones	9302.44	-18.07	-0.19	9380.20	7400,30	1.61
Nikkel	13842.17	-4.7	-0.03	17352.95	17787,90	7.06
Hang Seng	10121,44	-104 5	-1.02	11926.16	6544.79	3.08
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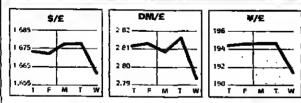
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U5	5 08	-0.74	5 12	-0.84	4 65		5.09			
Japan	0.52	-0.26	0 58	-0.16	2 22	0.27	2.97	0.40		
Germany	3.22	-0.42	3.20	-0.73	3.86	-1.51	4.78	-1.19		

CURRENCIES

BOND VIELDS

**MONEY MARKET RATES** 



	POI	JND		DOLLAR					
	at 5pm	Change	Yr Ago		at Spm	Change	Yr Ago		
Dollar	1.6613	-2.26¢	1.6451	Sterling	0.6013	+0.81p	0.6078		
D-Mark	2.7937	-7.84pl	2,9743	D-Mark	1.6830	+ T.35pl	1.7987		
Yen	191.32	-43.05	215.94	Yen	114.90	-¥-0.48	130.58		
∑ Index	100.40	-0 80	104.80	\$ index	104.70	-0.10	108.90		

### OTHER INDICATORS

			II Agu		HINDER		11 420	MERK USA
Brent Oil (	\$) 10.32	-0.24	16.19	GDP	115.40	3.00	112.04	Dec
Gold (5)								
Silver (5)							7.25	
								°at Spen

#### www.bloomberg.com/nk SOURCE: BLOOMBERG

	OURIST	RATES	
Australia (\$)	2.6493	Mexican (nuevo peso)	14.91
Austria (schillings)	19.13	Netherlands (guilders)	3.0678
Belgium (francs)	S6.26	New Zealand (\$)	3.0661
Canada (\$)	2.5375	Norway (krone)	12.34
Cyprus (pounds)	0.8048	Portugal (escudos)	278.08
Denmark (krone)	10.43	Saudi Arabla (rials)	6.1173
Finland (markka)	8.3053	Singapore (\$)	2.6586
France (francs)	9.1352	Spain (pesetas)	231.60
Germany (marks)	2.7362	South Africa (rands)	9.4978
Greece (drachma)	458.85	Sweden (krone)	13.27
Hong Kong (\$)	12.61	Switzerland (francs)	2.2346
Ireland (punts)	1.0946	Thailand (bahts)	S6,39
Indian (rupees)	64.18	Turkey (lirasi)	507854
israel (shekels)	6.4941	USA (\$)	1.6399
Italy (lira)	2711		

189.63

6.1169

Japan (yen)

Malaysia (ringgits)

# London dealer named in Griffin futures collapse

cial Services Authority the City watchdog, yesterday took charge of Griffin Trading, the troubled futures clearing agent, as it emerged that the trader whose losses caused the firm's former Credit Suisse First Boston futures dealer who operated independently out of Griffin's City premises.

The FSA said yesterday it has issued intervention orders against Griffin, the Londonbased offshoot of a well-known Chicago trading house, and a related firm GLH (Derivatives) Ltd, which acted as a corporate vehicle for a number of independent futures traders including Mr Park. It will now seek the orderly winddown of the two firms.

The Independent has learned that Mr Park, a wealthy Korean, known in the futures market by the nickname "Chinkie John", ran into difficulty last week when he lost £6.25m on German government bond (Bund) futures after the market unexpectedly turned against him. He was unable to meet margin calls.

Mr Park, who is believed to be in his mid-20s, has been operating as an independent trader using Griffin's City premises since last March. He is said to be seeking to put his London house and his car up for sale to meet his obligations after being told by his father, a wealthy businessman, that he cannot access an \$18m trust fund to repay his debts. Mr Park was not returning

phone calls yesterday. GLH has a telephone number listed with the FSA in Colchester, Essex, but the line has been disconnected. Griffin was declared in default by the London International Fi-

OFFICIALS FROM the Finan- By ANDREW GARFIELD Financial Editor

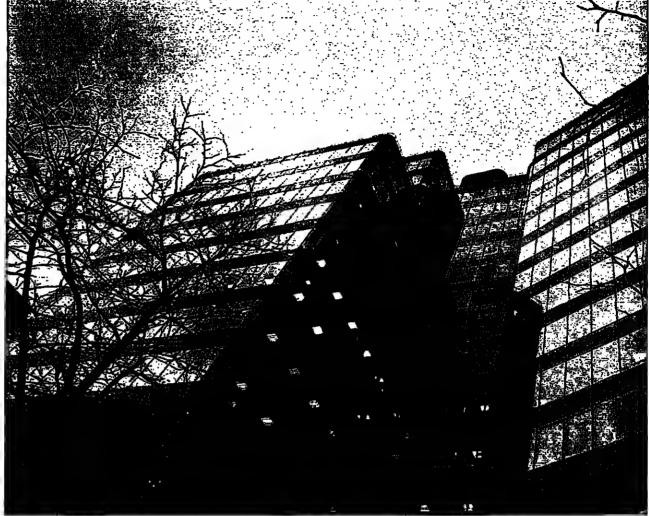
nancial Futures and Options Exchange (Liffe) on Christmas Eve after discovering it had insufficient funds to cover losses difficulties was John Park, a run up by Mr Park in dealings on the German futures exchange, the DTB. Griffin acted as a clearing house, or inter-mediary, for Mr Park Normally he should have had enough money on deposit with the firm to cover potential losses.

Steve Rose, the managing director of Griffin in London, has told clients that Mr Park had £1m on deposit with Griffin. One client said that according to Mr Rose, as of the evening of 21 December, Griffia was aware that Mr Park had a potentially lossmaking position in German March Bund futures. However, as far as the firm

was aware Mr Park had bought only 950 "lots". Lots are the units in which the contracts are traditionally traded. Then at 10.30am on 22 December, Griffin was contacted by another broker, Tullet & Tokyo, which requested settlement for a further 8000 DTB futures lots held in Mr Park's name. Although Griffin could have seized the contracts and sold them in the market with a smaller loss, it did not, By late afternoon, the word was out that someone was in trouble, compounding its difficulty in disposing of the contracts.

Mr Rose said yesterday that

he was unable to confirm or deny the account of the events which have led the firm into default. He referred all calls to the head office in Chicago. The firm's lawyers Mayer, Brown & Platt, were not available for comment. The FSA said in a statement



The FSA, whose new offices are pictured above, yesterday took charge of Griffin Trading

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yesterday: "Both Griffin and GLH have been unable to meet substantial margin calls arising from GLH's trading. Accordingly GLH has failed to maintain adequate financial resources to meet its business commitments and to withstand the risks to

which its business is subject: have been hit by the collapse. Griffin has failed to maintain sufficient funds in its segregated client bank accounts to meet its

client money requirements." Some 80 sole traders, known in the market as locals, who also used Griffin as a clearing house

They have been told by the SFA they are unlikely to get their money back in full, although they could get up to 90 per cent back. Matters have been complicated by the fact that

that also acted as broker for some of Griffin's clients, is refusing to hand back £2m it received from Griffin which traders claim was in a segregated account and is therefore MeesPierson, the Dutch bank was unable to comment,

# Arnault quits

THE ANNOUNCEMENT yester- By JOHN WILLCOCK day by Bernard Arnault, chairman of Moet Hennessy Louis Vuitton (LVMH), that he was resigning from the board of Diageo prompted a flurry of speculation that the French luxury goods group would now cut its 11 per cent stake in the British food and drinks giant.

Mr Arnault has repeatedly said the LVMH holding in Diageo is not a core long-term holding ever since he tried to hlock the £24hn Guinness-Grand Metropolitan merger in October 1997.

However, the share price of the fast food, wine, spirits and beer group has done well, so there has been little pressure on Mr Arnault to sell, say sources close to the French group.

Diageo's shares rose from around 550p in January to a high of 778.5p in the summer before the Asian turmoil and the strong pound forced them down to a low of 480.5p in October Yesterday the shares finished 21p down at 684p.

Analysts said this was still well above the 630p Mr Arnault paid for around half his stake in Diageo. He extracted £250m in cash in return for his agreement in dividends and £300m in cost

LVMH's shares fell 7 francs said it would not be providing a the company."

BY JOHN WILLCOCK

euro next week.

in North Kent.

in 2006.

sult from the introduction of the

McAlpine's Civil Engineering di-

vision said yesterday it had

been awarded an £80m contract

in a joint venture with Amec to

build part of the Channel Tun-

nel Rail Link, covering the sec-

tion from the west bank of the

Medway to Fawkham Junction

& Continental Railways will

huild the entire link. Railtrack

is set to buy the first section of

the link for £1.5bn when it is

completed in 2003, and has an

option to buy the second section

The bonds will be fully and

unconditionally guaranteed by

the British Government as part

of a revamped public-private

partnership plan unveiled in

The original plan fell apart at

A consortium litled London

At the same time, Alfred

replacement for Mr Arnault on the Diageo board, although it regards the trading joint venture between Diageo's wine subsidiary UDV and Moët Hennessy as a success.

A spokeswoman for Diageo said there were no plans for the UK group to cut its own 34 per cent holding in Moet Hennessy, even if Mr Arnault did reduce his stake in Diageo. The link with Moët Hennessy had gone "from strength to strength since the creation of Diageo", she said. Mr Arnault said he was leav-

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£25,000 . 3

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to the merger, as well as £250m ing "due to pressure of other commitments". He added: "I should like to emphasise that I fully support the way in which yesterday to Fir1,078. LVMH the Diageo board are managing

# Link launches BP/Amoco bond funding

THE GROUP behind the muchdelayed Channel Tunnel Rail Link is about to start raising funds for the project with the higgest ever loan of sterling outside the gilt market. However, a number of regulatory hurdles are due to be cleared first.

Construction of the first half of the 68-mile rail link will be financed by the issue of £2.65bn ol bonds guaranteed by the British Government in either two or three tranches. Another £1.1bn, also backed

raised later to pay for the construction of the second section, from North Kent to St Pancras in London. The joint managers of the

Rates for indication purposes with

Source Thomas Cook

by the Government, will be

giant bond issues, Warburg Dillon Read and HSBC Markets, have yet to make a final decision on when the issues will go ahead, and how the bonds will be structured.

They have already obtained clearance from European Union authoribes concerning the beginning of the year after state aid regulations. The man-John Prescott, the Deputy agers are keen, however, to Prime Minister, rejected a reavoid any turbulence in the quest by LCR for an extra bond markets which might re- 21.2bn of public money.

# deal gets go-ahead

BY SIMON DUKE

THE US Federal Trade Commission yesterday gave a con-ditional green light to the merger between British Petroleum and Amoco Corporation.

The deal, which will create the largest company in the UK, is expected to be concluded imminently. The new company. to be called BP-Amoco, will also be the third largest oil company behind Exxon and Royal Dutch/Shell.

With a market capitalisation in excess of \$140bn (£84bn), it will constitute between 7 and 8 per cent of the FTSE100 index. The merger is conditional on

the two companies disposing of 134 gas stations and nine petroleum storage terminals within the next six months. They must also allow 1,600 independently-owned stations to change their gas brands.

"Although the merger of BP/Amoco involves companies of great size, the operations of these two companies rarely overlap in a way that threatens competition," said Robert Pitofsky, commission chairman.

#### **NEW INVESTMENT RATES** Effective from 3 January 1999

ANNUAL RATES	Gross to payer	Nation plants	MONTHLY RATES	
One Year Variable Rate Bond [Issue I]	į.		First Post Plus	
One Year Variable Rate Bond By Post (	lasue I)		£25,000 - £250,000	3.3
£50,000 - £250,000	6.55	5.24	£10,000 - £24,999,99	3.1
£25,000 - £49,999 99	6.50	5.20		+-
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1,000 - £9,999.99	6.40	5.12	£25,000 · £250,000	3.3
		<del> </del>	£10,000 - £24,999.99	3.1
carborough 30 & 30 By Post*		4.44	£5,000 - £9,999.99	2.4
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opersaver (rates include a 1%			Instant Access By Post	
ross interest bonus)††	l	1 [	£1,000 - £250,000	3.6
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carborough First Post*				
25,000 - £250,000	3.90	3.72	CLOSED ISSUES	
10,000 - £24,999.99	3.30	2.64	MONTHLY RATES	
5,000 - £9,999.99	2.55	2.04		Gross :
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gh Standard £250,000 £24,999.99 9,999.99	3.75 3.15 2.40 2.00	3 00 2.52 1.92 1.60	Scarborough Fifty Instant Access & Fifty Instant Access By Post 225,000 - £250,000 £10,000 - £24,799,99 £1,000 - £9,999 99	3.75 3.15 2.40	3.00 2.52 1.92	

We draw to investors' attention the fact that we have re-written the Turms and Conditions which apply to all current investments to make We draw to investors automatic view now have General Investment Conditions (which apply to all investments) and product leafles them simpler and cases to supply to individual divertments. It you would like a copy of our General Investment Conditions or any of our privited leatilest please telephone our Flead Otime or ask at any branch.

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# THE CITY is fully prepared, or so it

# Is there gain in the City's euro pain?

believes. Over the next week we'll find out just how far this is true. What is certainly the case is that though many British husinesses may still be refusing to acknowledge the seismic shift about to occur within the European economy, in the high octane driven world of the City's financial markets, hundreds of millions have already been spent on adapting IT and trading systems for the advent of the euro.

Investment and commercial banking, the two parts of the financial services industry most immediately affected by the launch of the new currency, have planned for "conversion weekend" in meticulous detail. From securities custody, through currency trading, how to deal with fractions and unmarketable units, to the most complicated of customised derivative instruments. the City is ready.

Thousands will see in the New Year in anxious sohriety - at their desks attempting to grapple with the closing exchange rates al which currencies will from tomorrow lock into the euro. Many IT and trading specialists will continue working through the weekend, testing and adapting their systems for lastminute glitches. Getting it right will give competitive edge over those who don't and could make the difference between big profits and losses.



It is unrealistic to think London would not be discriminated against as an abstainer from the euro

Given the City's position as the world's higgest and most successful international financial centre, it would perhaps be surprising if the City were in anything other than a state of high preparedness. Over the past 15 years, the Square Mile has changed out of all recognition. The closed shop of largely domestic firms and partnerships it once was has been transformed into an open market place for international capital; it has become the location of choice for international bankers and securities traders everywhere.

Virtually every complicated Eu-

ΤE

£50,000 +

£25,000 - £49,999

£10,000 - £24,999

£5,000 - £9,999

£2,000 - £4,999

ropean banking transaction of im- would therefore be disastrous. In portance now takes place through London, and its markets-from for- might be regarded as a serious eign exchange to debt and futures - dominate the European time

So being prepared comes with the territory. The bigger question is not so much whether London is trading strategies is also that much Practically capable of meeting the challenge of the euro - that scarcely seems in doubt; initially, at least, the City looks destined to dominate the euro markets. Rather it is whether the Square Mile can hope to maintain this pre-eminent position if Britain stays out of the single currency.

For Peter Levene, Lord Mayor of London, and to the extent that there is one, titular head of the City, there is no doubt that it can. Financial and husiness services such as IT accountancy consultancy and legal work now account for in excess of a quarter of the UK economy, and

the City is a large part of that. Quite apart from this vital position in the national economy, the wealth generated in the City has become core to the vitality and economic health of the capital, helping to sustain its vibrant arts scene, its property markets, its restaurants and a whole panoply of other service industries and jobs.

The consequences of losing out because of the launch of the euro Key to the single currency's suc-

this sense, the single currency the development of an integrated debt, or bond, market, both nationthreat to the City. If your husiness al and corporate. All the indications is commission driven, it is obviousare that the City will dominate this ly more lucrative to deal in 11 cureurobond market in the early years. rencies than just one. The but will il remain that way? Already there are warning signs.

trading strategies is also that much The very location in Frankfurt of the European Central Bank will in itself More importantly, rival Euroact as a powerful magnet for marpean financial centres have always kets. Physical proximity to policy looked jealously over the Channel makers still seems to matter in marat their higger London counterkets, even though advanced IT syspart, and in recent years, Frankfurt tems render it unnecessary. in particular has been chasing Lon-More worrying, Brussels seems don hard in certain markets, parintent on removing some of the ticularly German hond based

City's present competitive tax adderivatives. Are Frankfurt, Paris and vantages. The most serious imme-Milan really going to allow what would in effect become an offshore diate threat is posed by the planned imposition of a 20 per cent withcentre to dominate markets in their holding tax on income from bonds. own single currency? Lord Levene is adamant that Eu-On the face of it, this would seem a quite innocuous piece of anti-evarope needs the City as much as the

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sion tax harmonisation. All countries City needs Europe. If the euro is to have withholding taxes, the deduction of tax at source, in some shape survive and prosper as a powerful or form. In this country, employers reserve currency capable of looking the dollar in the face and attracting pay salary net of income tax. Incheap foreign capital in the same terest on huilding society accounts way as the US does, it needs to deis also paid net of basic rate tax.

velop deep and liquid capital mar-Non taxpayers then reclaim the kets. The City is uniquely placed to tax from the Revenue at a later stage. However, to impose it on offer these markets, more so than any other centre, and to act as a conbonds might cause these markets duit for foreign capital into Euto shift offshore to rival international centres where bonds could be traded gross, as well as acting

capital.

Certainly, when such a tax was imposed in the US it caused a large part of the bond market to shift offshore. The euro dollar market was born. A large part of the City's present success is based on this single act of tax lunacy, since it persuaded many US investment banks to set up operations here in London and helped generate the critical mass of foreign interest and

trading to push the City into the

super league of financial centres. At present, the planned scope of the tax is limited to individuals - or only about 10 per cent of the total Euroland bond market - but there are proposals from a group of MEPs to extend it to companies as well. Tony Blair, the Prime Minister, has vowed to use Britain's veto to block the move and there is good reason to believe that Brussels might eventually accept the Corporation of London's case. If the effect was to cause a general flight of capital from Europe, that would plainly be bad for everyone, not just the City.

All the same, many see in these proposals a harbinger of things to come. Brussels and its Continental masters might seek to punish the City for being outside the euro. If Britain joins the single currency within a relatively short period of time, then the City can realistical-

rope's leading international centre. if it does not then its chances would seem remote, notwithstanding Lord Levene's protestations to the contrary.

BUSINESS/19

It is not realistic to think that Britain and the City would not in some way be discriminated against as long-term abstainers from the single currency, or that the integrated debt market so vital to the new currency's sustained health could tolerably be based outside Euroland. That would not be dissimilar to allowing the gilts market to be run out of the Bahamas.

If, on the other hand, the euro is a failure, then all bets are off. London would be left as the default centre of choice and in prime position to pick up the pieces. Already there are signs of capital flight from Euroland, albeit quite limited in scope. The extent to which that process gathers pace depends crucially on what type of single currency the

Will it be a liberalising, free market force across Europe, or will it mark the onset of ever greater centralised regulation, including centrally imposed tax harmonisation. That dehate is only just beginning. The City has a powerful vested interest in making it the former, but it cannot do so if Britain remains

### **CBI** chief hits out at Eurosceptics

THE CONFEDERATION of BY BARRIE CLEMENT British Industry president yesterday cast aside the Euroscepticism of some of his senior colleagues when he called for Britain to become a key player in shaping the Euopean Union.

In his New Year message, Sir Clive Thompson said that the next 12 months would be make or break for the UK in Europe.

"It is crucial for Britain to play a major role in shaping the final outcome of the EU. Standing on the sidelines, watching others make decisions that affect us, will achieve nothing."

The most important issue is the euro, which is launched toymorrow. "We will soon see if one of Britain's decision to stay out,

LONDON

A IN COLUMN

Those effects will be keenly felt by the husiness community, All this should contribute to a more grown-up debate about the single currency," Sir Clive said.

Britain needed to influence decisions over whether Europe would be entrepreneurial with labour market flexibility and high growth, or whether it would settle for low growth, high taxes and regulation, he said.

Britain's absence from the euro would mean a "painful year" for the economy, said John Monks, general secretary of the Trades Union Council.

"It is beginning to seem as if we bave repeated the standard interest rate does work for 11 British error of coming too late countries, as well as the effect to Europe to secure the best deal possible," he said.

Derek Pain, page 21

# **New Banking and Savings** Interest Rates from Nationwide

#### FROM 1ST JANUARY 1999 DATES EOD DEDSONAL SAVEDS

		Prev	iors			Nev					Previ	niis			Nev		
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1 - £9,999	5.10%	5.1		4.08%	4.60%	4.io		3,08%	£1 - £9,999	6.80%	b.80		5.4100	0.30%	0.30		5.04%
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l - £9.000 onus 60* Annual	7.10%	7.50%	7.10%	5.68°	6.60%	.00%	6.60°	5.28%	Bonus 60° Monthly	4.15%	40%	7.40%	5,920	3.65%	6.90%	(r. nonp	5.529
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60.000 - £99.999	5.95%	6.70%	6.70%	5.30%	5.45%	6.20%	6.20%	1.764	£50,000 - £90,900	5.65%	0.40%	6.40%	5.12%	5.15%	5,90%	5,904 <sub>0</sub>	4.729
5.000 - £49.979	5.65%	6.40%	6.40%	5.12%	5.15%	5.4020	5.90%	4.7290	£25,000 - £49,999	5.35%	6.10%	6.10%	1.889	9.05%	5 00%	5.60%	4.489
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= £9,999	5.05%	5.80%	5.80%	4.6400	4.55%	5,30%	5.30%	4_24%	£1 - £9,999	4.75%	5,50%	5.50%	4.40%	4.25%	5.00%	5.00%	4.009

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**RATES FOR BUSINESS SAVERS** 

Portfolio

£50,000 +

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New

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3.96% 3.55%

### before late huying cut the fall. Supporting shares hucked the trend, scoring modest gains. BICC, the cable and construction group, was the best performing 350 share, gaining 5.5p to 70.5p on expectations that takeover action will break out in the New

NEW YORK WITH MOST traders nn holiday, and no figures to keep the eight-day rally running, Wall Street stocks traded down slightly during the day, with telecoms shares the biggest

WORLD MARKETS

BLUE CHIPS ended the last trading day of the year looking

scidedly ragged with Footsie down 58.9 points at 5,882.6. In largely technical trading, as investment houses attempted to square their books ahead of the launch of the euro, the index swung from an early 3.4 gain to a 132.5 loss

early afternoon trading, the benchmark Dow Junes in lex had fallen 0.4 per cent to 9,284, while the Nasdaq index was down 0.7 per cent to 2,166.

Stocks have moved up so dramatically that investors are beginning to realise that some large stocks have been overvalued," said nne analyst.

### **⊕** TOKYO

A SURGE in computer stocks and a slide in utility companies saw the Japanese benchmark Nikkei index close 5 points down

Kansai Electric Power, which provides electricity to the cities of Osaka and Kyoto, fell by 2 per cent as the yield on Japanese government bonds rose to 2.01 per cent, just under

the yield implied by Kansai's last dividend payout. Bond prices are collapsing, driving yields up, and the 2 ople who bought these stocks for yield are moving into Londs," said one analyst.

#### FRANKFURT

GERMAN SHARES drifted slowly downards in light trading, with the DAX index closing 1 per cent lower at 5,006 on the last dealing session before the new year and the birth of

Telecoms shares continued to fall on concerns that an escalating price war in the German phone market would depress earnings.

Deutsche Telecom fell 2 per cent, while Mannesmann, the engineering company that owns Germany's largest mobile phone company, dropped 2.5 per cent.

#### HONG KONG

IN THÍN TRADING, Hong Kong's benchmark Hang Seng index dropped 1 per cent to close at 10,121, with investors sitting on the sidelines ahead of the New Year holiday. HSBC, the territory's largest company by market

apitalisation, fell nearly 1 per cent, as investors do not expect proposed acquisition of the debt-laden Korea First Bank to rofitable for a number of years. Hong Kong le ecommunications, the city's largest telephone company, fell 1.5 per cent, after a newspaper article suggested that the ompany plans to cut international call rates.

RATES FOR ACCOUNTS NO LONGER AVAILABLE TO NEW SAVERS

			Previous		1	New		1			Previous			New	
Account Name	Balance	AER	Gross p.s.	Net pa	AER	Gross p.s.	Ner p.z.	Account Name	Balance	AER	Gross p.a.	Net p.a.	AER	Gross p.a.	Net p.a.
Asset Reserve	£50,000 +	4.99%	4.90%	3,92%	4.47%	4.40%	3,52%	IncomeBond	£10,000 +	5.80%	5.80%	4.64%	5.30°h	5.30%	4.24%
	£25,000 - £49,999	4.58%	4.50%	3.00%	4.06%	4.0000	5.20%		£1 ~ £9,990	5.50%	5.50%	1.40%	5.00%	5.00%	4.00%
	£10,000 - £24,999	3.96%	3.90%	3.12%	3,34%	3,30%	2.64%								
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								TaxFree Option	£25,000 +	5.60%					4.05%
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	£1 - £9,999	5.10%	5.10%	4.08%	4.60%	4.60%	3.68%					. 030	- 460		
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CapitalBonus 90	£25,000 +	5.30%	5.30%	4.24%	4.80%	4.80%	3.54%	180 D <sub>o</sub> y	£10.000 - £24.999	5.85%	5,8546	4.68%	5.35%	5.35%	4.289n
Monthly/Half-Yearly		5.00%	5.00%	4.00%	4.50%	4.50%	3.60%		£1 — £0.999	5.30%	5_30%	4.24%	4.80%	4.80%	3.84°n
Monani man- remi	£1 - £9,999	4.80%	4.80%	3.84%	4.30%	4.30%	3.44%								
	21 - 27,777	1.00 70	4.00.0	3.51.0	200.0	204.4	5111	DoubleBonus	£1 +	3.80%	5.80%	3.04%	3.30%	3.50%	264%
Bonus Builder	£25,000 +	4.60%	4.60%	3.68%	4.10%	4.10%	3.78%								
Tobite paramet			4.20%	3.36%	3.70%	3.70%	2.06%	Bonus 90	£20,000 +	5.68%	5.00%	4.48%	5.17%	5.10%	4.03%
	£10,000 - £24,999	4.20%		3.20%		3.50%	1.80%		£10.000 - £19.999	5.37%	5.10%	4.249h	4.86%	4.80%	3.84%
	£5,000 - £9,999	4.00%	4.00%		3.50%			1	£1 - £9,999	5.17%	5.10%	4.08%	4.65%	4.600 <sub>o</sub>	3.08%
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It pays to decide... 2 Nationwic

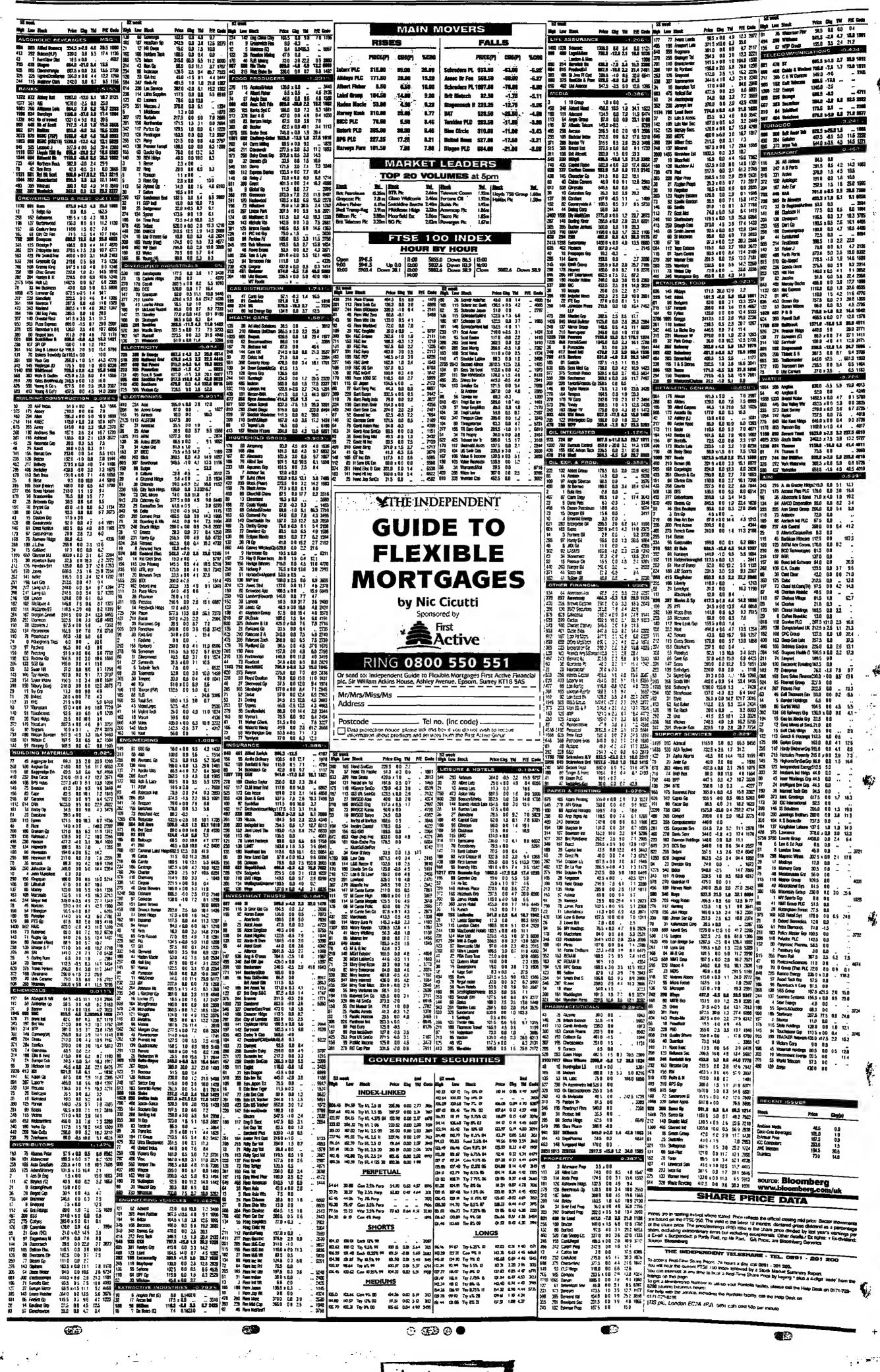
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# Fun and games mark the end of '98

TRADING MAY have been thin but the stock market indulged in some unusual fun and games in a final. mad 30 minutes on the last trading day of the year.

Footsie was down 98,7 points at mid-day. Just 12 minutes later the fall had been extended to 132.5 as, in futures led trading, investment houses endeavoured to end 1992 with their books square.

Yet hy the close of the half-day session the decline had been reduced to 58.9 points at 5,882.6. The index had opened with a 3.4 gain.

Turnover was, for a shortened day's trading, a not unreasonable 188.2 million shares. Much of it occurred in the final stampede.

After the late rush to sell further weakened already depressed prices, huyers suddenly appeared with a series of programmes hitting the market.

When trading started there were hopes that Footsie would test the crucial 6,000 mark. But despite New York's overnight strength investors tended to sit on the sidelines. Once again price movements were exacerbated by the sheer lack of inMARKET REPORT

PAIN

vestment interest that is a traditional feature of the festive season.

Many investment houses again relied on a skeleton staff with their major players away, leaving understudies minding the shop.
In the past, the day before New

Year's Eve has been a full trading session with the last day of the year reduced to a lunchtime close. This time, because of the advent of the euro, the market is closed today, reopening on Monday.

During what has been an event-

ful year Footsie swung from an opening 5.135.5 to a peak 6,179 in June and then slumped to 4,647.7 in October before its rally in the past two months produced a year's gain

Hays topped the Footsie leader board with a 21.5p gain to 527.5p following the £35.3m acquisition of Axis Resources, an IT outsourcing group. Ronnie Frost, chairman of the business support group, said Hays planned to extend its IT outsourcing operations and he expected more deals next year.

Diageo, the wine and spirit giant, had a year-end hangover as Bernard Arnault, the French tycoon, quit, fermenting worries his LVMH is planning to sell its 10.84 per cent shareholding. The shares fell 21p to 684p; about half the LVMH stake was acquired at an average of 630p as Mr Arnault songht to influence the Grand Metropolitan/Guinness merger which he op-

Diageo and LVMH atill have close trading ties which should survive a reduction or complete sale of the stake. Mr. Arnault is known

to nurse ambitions to grow his luxury goods empire and would no doubt welcome the 12.5bn or so the share sale would produce.

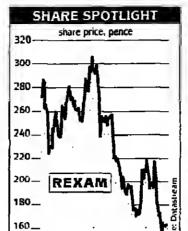
Rexam, the packaging and paper group, firmed 7.5p to 169.5p

GREYCOAT, the property group, was the subject of brisk trading, with deals for just over 7 million shares and 710,000 nf them going through at 165p. The price rose 3.5p to 172p.

Rival Wates City of London Properties is keen on arranging a merger with Greycoat, and there was speculation that it had lifted its 2.9 per cent stake in an attempt to bring further pressure on what appears to be a rejuctant Greycoat board.

although it admitted it is not in possession of all the information it would normally expect over its £380m Swedish takeover target,

Under Swedish law PLM is not



ahliged to provide details which would be necessary in this country. Rexam, therefore, is proceeding on the hasis of published information, its own commercial assessment and the knowledge of its chief executive Rolf Boerjesson, who was

DJFMAMJJASOND

chief of PLM for six years. British Petroleum and its merg-

er partner Amoco have won the go highest since September on hopes Commission. They will have to shed around 134 US garages and make it easier for some other petrol stations to switch to other

COULD SOTHEBY'S, the auction house, find itself under the hammer in the new year? The shares, a notorinusly narrow market, are signalling corporate action: they rose 155p to 1,790p, a high. In October they were down to 965p and they bave climbed 535p this mnnth.

The New York-based group, with a blue-blooded board, is headed and controlled hy AA Taubman. It is renowned for its low stock market profile.

hrands. BP fell 12p to 897.5p. Financials were weak with Barclays off 37p at 1,296p and Nation-

al Westminster 35p at 1,159p. BICC, the cable and construction group, jumped 5.5p to 70.5p,

-ahead from the US Federal Trade it will be a New Year takeover target. Wassall, the acquisitive group that took over TGI, the old Thorn Lighting, in October, is stake building. It may be stretched to mount a bid, with BICC capitalised at around £300m, but its interest, it is thought, could provoke another party. Nine years ago BICC nudged 550p; the price was down to 38p be-

fore Wassall showed its band. Smaller eompanies were to some extent helped by the KPMG suggestion that institutions, which often ignore the mid and small cap shares, should rethink their policy as many on the under card are now looking under valued. The mid cap index rose 11.2 points to 4.854.7 and the small cap put on 9.2 to 2,070.9.

Topps Tiles, planning a one-forone share split, slipped 10.5p to 226.5p. Moorfield, the property group, held at 165.5p. What looked like a fund-to-fund cross of just over 1 million shares went through at a little under the market price.

SEAQ VOLUME: 188.2 million SEAQ TRADES: 26,310

### • O'Reilly appointed press group MD

GAVIN O'REILLY has been appointed managing director of Independent Newspapers (Ireland), the higgest and most profitable part of the international newspaper group.

The second second

Mr O'Reilly, 32, is the son of Dr Tony O'Reilly, the group chairman. He succeeds David Palmer, who steps up to become chairman of Independent Newspapers (Treland), Mr Palmer has also been appointed project director for the new printing facilities which Independent Newspapers will be huilding on the outskirts of

Mr O'Reilly (junior) will be joining the group executive committee along with Ivan Fallon, chief executive of the group's South African intersts, and Cameron O'Reilly, thief executive of operations in

# target for BAe merger

Dasa remains prime

ing ahead with talks aimed at clinching a £15hn merger with giant, with a further link-up with GEC's defence electronics husiness Marconi, as a secondary target.

However, there were strong indications yesterday that the French defence group Thomson CSF is keen to link with GEC, a late entrant to the drive for consolidation in the European defence industry.

Negotiations aimed at that consolidation have been overshadowed by the political concerns of the countries in-Tony Blair, the Prime Min-

backing to an Anglo-German merger, whilst the French would also like to bave a role. Thomson CSF's overtures

to GEC are seen by analysts as a serious threat to a deal be-

BRITISH AEROSPACE is press- By JOHN WILLCOCK

tween BAe, Dasa and a Mar-Dasa, the German defence coni division demerged from GEC.

The French stockmarket took the prospect of a link between GEC's Marconi and Thomson-CSF seriously yesterday, as Thomson's share price climbed nearly four per-

cent in thin volume. Thomson was up 3.98 per cent at 235 francs. The bluechip CAC-40 index was up 0.3 per cent at 3,903.07 at the time.

Observers are also taking a

possible link between GEC and Lockheed Martin of the US seriously. Other parties talking to GEC include Nortbop ister, has given his strong Grumman of the US. The BAe/Dasa link up, if

> successful, is set to bave a British chief executive, with BAe's John Weston maintain-

George Rose, BAe's finance on the board.

director, will also remain in the

The new grouping will he run on typically continental lines with a revolving chairmanship, although a German is likely to have first go in the

Sir Richard Evans, BAe's current chairman, will continue to have a role in the new

Ownership of the merged entity is still under intense negotiation.

It appears that Dasa will emerge as the single higgest unified shareholder with around 25 per cent to 30 per cent of the group, making Dasa's owner Daimler-Chrysler a key player in any further deals.

The rest will be spread between BAe's existing institutional investors. Dasa would have about a third of the seats

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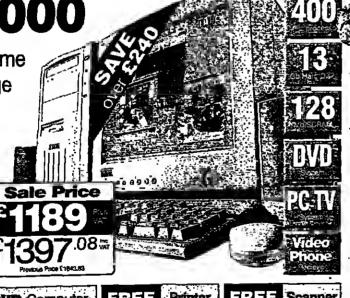
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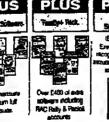
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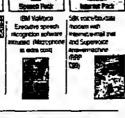














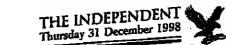


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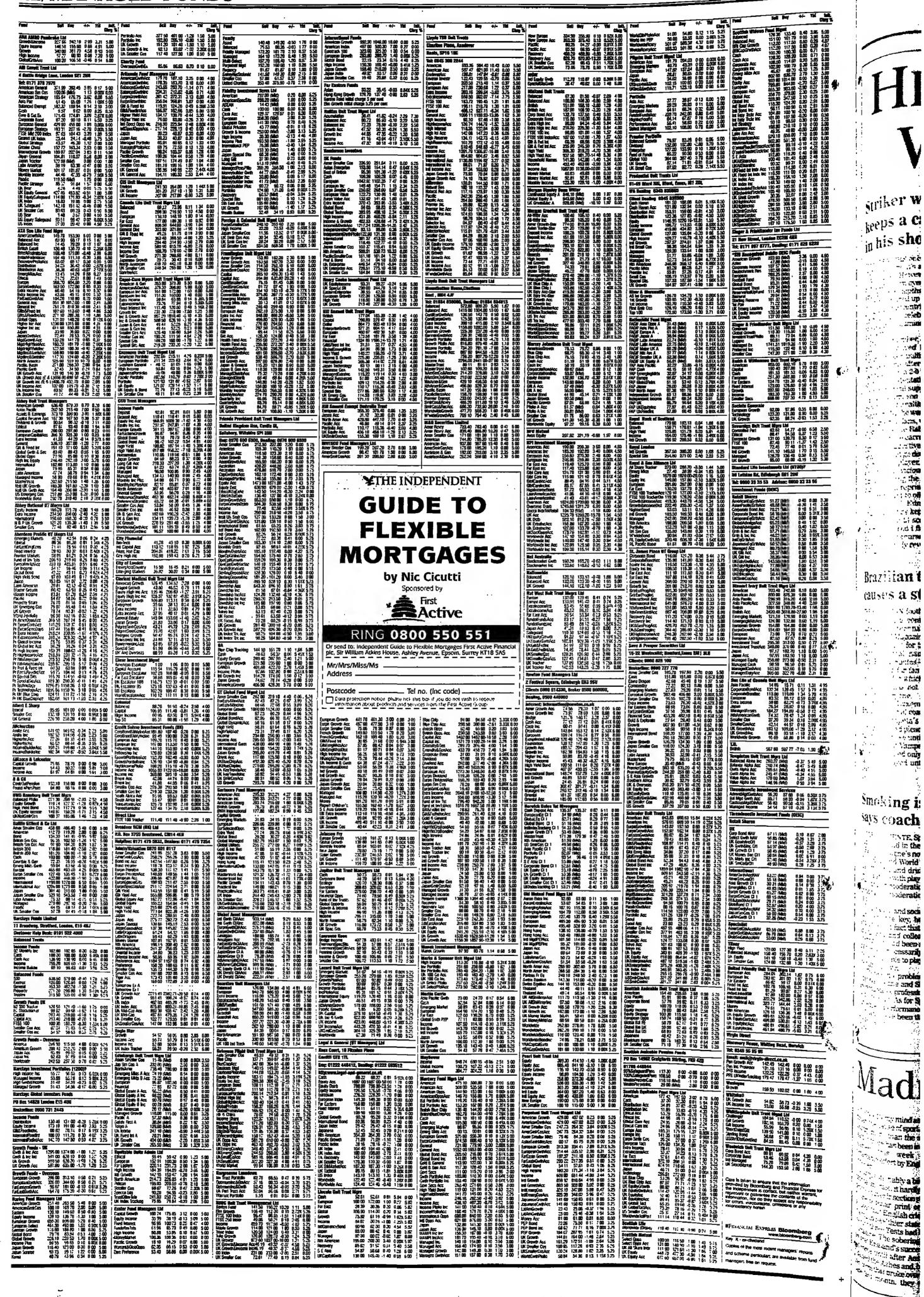
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# HEADLINES YOU THOUGHT YOU WOULD NEVER READ IN 1998

#### Striker who keeps a carrot in his shorts

CARROTS WERE once reputed to improve a person's ability to see in the dark. However, it takes more than sharp eyesight to penetrate the dim depths of the intellect that conjured up the latest in a long line of eccentric, not to say ludicrous, goal celebrations that have begun to illuminate Brazilian club football.

One little number, acted out by Edmilson, involved the Atletico Mineiro striker pulling a carrot from his shorts after scoring the opening goal in a 2-0 victory over America and ostentabously eating it in front of rival supporters.

So was Edmilson showing off the benefits of bealthy eating for sportsmen? No, be was making fun of the America fans, whose team are known as the Rabbits.

Whatever the carrot act did for Edmilson's digestive system, It certainly did not go down well with America. One player, Dinho, was sent off for a vicious tackle on Edmilson during the second balf in an apparent reprisal.

"I didn't want to offend anyone with the joke." Edmilson said, explaining that be kept the carrot in his shorts until scoring in the 20th minute. "Dld I find it revolting to eat it? Of course not. I don't find my own body revolting," September

#### Brazilian tackle causes a stir

THE BRAZILIAN footballer, Vampeta, sparked a controversy by agreeing to appear naked in a gay publication, G Magazine. "I am not gay, I'm doing it for the money." Vampeta – real name Marcos Andre Batista Santos - said, clearly not looking for fan mail. Vamwell with everyone.

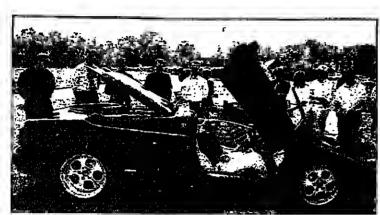
Wanderley Luxemburgo, the Brazilian national coach and also coach at Vampeta's club side, Corinthians, had pleaded with his player not to pose until the end of the season, but Vampeta took the anoney and asked only that publication be delayed until the New

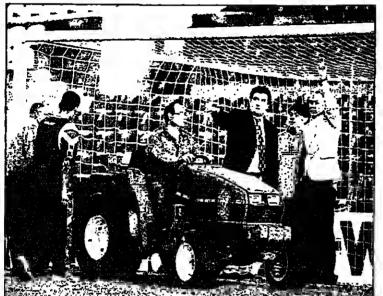
#### Smoking is OK says coach

JAVIER CLEMENTE, Spain's World Cup coach, said in the aftermath of Paul Gascoigne's non-inclusion in the England World Cup squad that smoking and drinking could be compatible with playing football. Smoking, in moderation, yes. And drinking in moderation too," he

Moderation and social responsib ity were the key, he said, and added that the fact that Gascoigne and his England colleague Teddy Sberingham had been seen smoking need not necessarily mean that they were unable to play football at the highest level.

"There's no problem, and besides Gascoigne and Sheringham are remarkable professionals on the field." he said. As for Spain's poor subsequent performance at France 98, it can't have been the fags and booze, can it? June









peta's stunt, for which he will be Strange but true (clockwise from top left): The supercar that launched a journalist's brief golfing career; Carrot man - Atletico Mineiro's vegetable-toting paid £60,000, has oot gone down striker: Fred Done, the overconfident Manchester bookie; and the Mallorca goalposts that broke Hearts' hearts

#### Bookmaker pays out twice

FRED DONE, a Manchester Unitedsupporting bookmaker, was so pleased with his side's big lead in the Premiership that two months before the season finished be paid all the punters who had backed the Red Devils for the bile at his 115 shops in the north and Wales. Such generosity did not, at the

time, seem misplaced as United were runaway leaders and Done's pay-out of around £50,000 was all good publicity, thank you very much.

Then came Arsenal's late surge for the title, and Done, facing potential liabilities of £200,000 if the Gunners won, put a brave face on events. "I'm sure Fergie's not waving any white flags yet and while there's games still to be played there's still hope," be said. Arsène Wenger's side ended that. Speculating on bow events would change his life, Done said: "I'm going on boliday to Butlin's rather than the

#### **Boxer floored** by pregnancy

BOXERS PULLING out of fights JULIAN WILSON, one of the BBC's A VINTAGE performance was due to injury or illness is hardly a major surprise. One Mexican fighter, however, withdrew from her bout because sbe was pregnant.

After several tests confirmed that Maria de las Nieves Garcia, 22, was with child, she was pulled from ber bout against Christy Martin on the undercard of what would have been the Evander Holyfield-Henry Akinwande beavyweight title fight (which itself was called off because of Akinwande's illness). Nieves Garcia was 21 weeks pregnant. "She had no idea she was pregnant," said Bobby Goodman, Madison Square

Garden's director of boxing. "She seemed to be dejected that she was not fighting." Goodman said, adding in response to a question: "No, she didn't appear to be

gushing that she was pregnant." Nieves Garcia was scheduled to earn £9,500 to fight Martin, the World Boxing Council's women's lightweight champion.

# by O'Sullevan

most mild-mannered and respected sports correspondents, spoke publicly for the first time of the revelation in his autobiography that be "felt betrayed" by Peter O'Sullevan, his colleague for decades, and a man seemingly untouched by even

the tiniest hint of nastiness. Wilson said the falling-out began over when O'Sullevan would retire. Wilson claims be turned down the job of commentating for ITV in 1981 because O'Sullevan had told him he intended to retire at the age of 65 in 1983. However, O'Sullevan subsequently informed Wilson that this "retirement" would be from

journalism, not commentating. "I was quite shattered, but the ITV job had gone," Wilson wrote. "I felt betrayed."

Asked for his reaction, O'Sullevan responded: "I haven't read the book so I am not in a position to comment. I hope the book does well, that's all.'

#### Wilson 'betrayed' Marathon man When goalposts runs on alcohol were moved

expected from Portugal's Antonio Pinto as be sought to defend his London Marathon title.

As befits a man who has his own vineyard. Pinto admitted to being partial to a glass or two of wine. Well, not just a glass, but a bottle or more. Four bottles, to be precise, each week. "Sometimes more than four," be said before running this

Asked by a Portuguese journalist if be also upheld the national tradition of a little snifter of cognac in the morning, he replied once again in the affirmative. Wine, Pinto said, was full of vit-

amins, and his drinking was a natural complement to eating the kind of meals be enjoyed back home. In the race in London, Pinto finished third, behind Spain's Abel Anton and Morocco's Abdelkader El Mouaziz. A sign of the wines, per-

### WOMEN'S TEAMS competing in the

Women must

flash more flesh'

Volleyball World Championships in Tokuyama have been told that in the interests of the sport they must expose more flesh. The naked truth is that beach volleyball, largely performed in states of near-undress by part-time models, has cast its dowdier relative in an unfavourable light, and the authorities bave introduced measures to make the sixa-side version more appealing to spectators.

Brightly coloured balls are among the innovations, but the most controversial of the new ideas is the stipulation that the women must wear sborts only balf as long as the men. The shorter shorts sbould he "tight in waist and length" and "cut in an upward angle towards the top of the leg". The new rules also "encourage", without ordering, women to wear a one-piece swimsuit-style outfit rather than sborts and top.

Not surprisingly, this brave semi-nude new world met with little approval from the teams. "Soon only models will be allowed on the volleyball court," one South American player complained.

#### Hole-in-one secures car

A NEWSPAPER'S golf correspondent had to consider whether to turn professional in order to be able to accept a prize of a £189,000 Larnborghini for sinking a bole-in-one.

Derek Lawrenson, of the Sunday Telegraph, won the car for his effort at a charity golf day featuring the England World Cup football squad at Mill Ride, Ascot. Lawrenson, a left-hander with a handicap of eight, is a Liverpool supporter and achieved his feat in the company of Paul Ince and Steve McManaman.

to turn down the prize or turn professional," he said, acknowledging the rules that say amateurs cannot accept more than £200 in prizes per hole and professionals are unable to compete in amateur tournaments. Lawrenson gave the matter a few seconds thought hefore accepting the supercar. He has since sold the motor, bowever, for a reported £100,000 after discovering the insurance would have cost him £3,000 a year. lower than the other a few yards

#### Car secures hole-in-one

IT WAS just a normal day for Nancy Bachand. Trundling along a Massacbusetts highway at a steady 30mpb in her Toyota, sbe was minding her own business until Todd Obuchowski entered her life, or rather his golf ball did.

Obuchowski, a 34-year-old sheet metal worker, was enjoying a round at Haydenville's Beaver Brook course when be hit a wayward tee sbot at the 116-yard, par-three fourth hole. The ball shot over the green and on to the road, where it ricocheted off the passenger side of Bachand's car and rolled into the cup for a bole-in-one.

"I didn't know for sure until all these guys started shouting," Obuchowski said. The damage to the car worked out at £90.

**NICK HARRIS** 

#### AND THE HEADLINES YOU DID NOT SEE....

Schumacher confesses his 'deep love' for Coulthard

Tony McCoy: 'OK, so I slap my horses a bit. They love it'

Alcock: 'Di Canio was only tickling' Glenn Hoddle: I was wrong'

moved."

#### Madness of underdogs and Englishmen in favour tation bears down on promise. papers and across the air-NOTHING, IN my mind anyway, The year we are about to leave

hinders the cause of sport in this country more than the sort of reaction there has been in some quarters this week to a remarkable effort by England's cricketers.

If unquestionably a boost to national morale, it bardly justified the souvenir section put out by one popular print or suggesbons that English cricket is in a much healthier state than the first three Tests had led us to imagine. The sobering facts have been three down in the are that England's success did series. nt come until after Australia tained the Ashes and, but for



KEN JONES

It may be that the impetus of Melbourne will be maintained e storm that broke over Bris- in Sydney, but yet again the ...ne last month, they would weight of unreasonable expec-

behind us provided glaring examples of this largely British pbenomenon

Going back a little further, to the summer of 1997, a great deal of fuss was made about England's success in the Tournoi de France, a competition taken rather more lightly by Brazil, France and Italy.

From what I saw on television, neither Italy nor France looked fully geared up against England and it did not seem that Brazil were bearing right of David Beckham against down on the throttle.

conveyed by reports in news- in a penalty shoot-out.

waves, abetted by Glenn Hoddle's imprudent estimate, was that England would be a major threat in the 1998 World Cup defeats. Romania proved too finals. A personal point of view was that England were not good enough to progress beyond the quarter-finals, but this was contrary to national expectations.

The feeling grew up. and it still thrives in many minds. including Hoddle's, that England were on their way to winning the World Cup until the loss Argentina caused a rearguard However, the impression action and the agony of defeat

Through the refraction of vanced the view that England's France is made to look better than it was. Two victories; two cunning, Tunisia were not up to much and Colombia played without real purpose.

It is not the intention to denigrate England's efforts, merely to put things into perspective, which is not, unfortunately, a widespread habit. At this time of the year there is a tendency, natural I suppose, to take encouragement from the effect recent events may bave on the future.

On television the other night

time, England's performance in success in Melbourne augured well for next summer's cricket World Cup. With the rughy World Cup in mind, he drew similar encouragement from England's defeat of South Africa and how close Wales came to beating them.

This is all very well and good hut one thing does not necessarily lead to another or provide absolute proof of improvement.

For example, claims put forward for the Premiership, particularly by its main sponsors. Sky Television, have not been borne out by efforts in the European competitions. Man-

but Arsenal, if admittedly weakened by injuries and suspensions, were soon out of it. The Premier League is exciting but the heroes are invariably found out when tested against the more measured tempo favoured by foreign opposition.

BEFORE THE second leg of the

European Cup-Winners' Cup be

against Mallorca, Hearts' officials

nobced the goalposts were un-

The base of one post was 10cm

even due to a slope on the pitch.

away. A verbal complaint was made to a Uefa delegate and the match went ahead. "We only agreed to play

because of our supporters and the

security issue," Chris Robinson,

Hearts' chief executive, said, "The

goalposts have quite literally been

lost on aggregate, but still felt they would win through on principle.

Unfortunately, they did not, their

case heing dismissed on a techni-

cality - because the original com-

plaint bad not been made in

writing. Jim Jefferies, Hearts' man-

ager, said: "I believe Chris has said

that if the protest bad been written

on the back of a fag packet then it would have been OK." October

Hearts drew 1-1 on the night and

You can go on and on like this, and a long journey it becomes, but the general response to England's victory is encouragingly one of pleasure rather than bluster. That of a nation at last coming to terms with the loss of historical sporting supremacy.

Good things can come from acquiring a proper sense of a sports commentator ad- chester United are still there reality from understanding that

we have no divine right to succeed at games our ancestors invented

England's victory in Melbourne put a smile on plenty of faces, not least because it was unexpected. From being a team that had failed to bat with much efficiency, bowl with any sustained penetration and hold comparatively simple catches. England had overcome the acknowledged leaders of world

Among life's little dilemmas is the problem of the dedicated underdog who finds himself in danger of becoming an upperdog. It can be a very unsettling thing. Ask any Englishman

Jump giants split: Trainer dismisses reports that he too is on his way out, as former stable jockey goes his own way

# Nicholson insists he is staying put

IN THE rumour distillery of By RICHARD EDMONDSON racing the most potent story in recent weeks has been that the line yesterday as the gos-David Nicholson would soon be out of Jackdaws Castle and replaced by Oliver Sherwood. The Independent approached Sherwood several weeks ago and he swore "on his children's lives" there was no truth in suggestions he was leaving Rhonehurst his Upper Lambourn

base. It was a persuasive forfeit.

sip gathered momentum. Ruby Walsh, the jockey leading the championship in Ireland, it was said, would be Sherwood's first signing. "If I had A Maguire, R wouldn't be looking anywhere else," the trainer said.

Nicholson concurred. "We will not be adding to the jock-Sherwood was maintaining eys at Jackdaws Castle," he it and I can assure you of that."

said. "We have Richard Johnson, Robert Thornton, Robert Massey, Ollie McPhail and Adri-

an [Maguire] - a strong side." And world from Ireland also suggested Ruby would not be coming to town. "We have not been in contact with anyone," Johnson and R Thornton, I Ted Walsh, the jockey's father, said, "and I know the Duke and he would have given me a ring if anything was happening. There is absolutely nothing in

a Gloucestershire postcode. "I

RICHARD EDMONDSON Nap: Just Nip (Fontwell 2,40) **NB: Jennies Prospect** (Catterick 3.30)

can swear to you that I've not been approached by anyone,"

Oliver Sherwood too, it approached by Colin Smith [the excremental adjective to depears, will not be switching to owner of Jackdaws Castle and scribe reports which yesterday to Jackdaws Castle six years Nicholson's employerl and I understand, David Nicholson is in charge for the foreseeable fir and that the jockey had become ture. People are just speculating. I've had owners ringing me up, asking me what's going on. If I was offered the job it would be an honour and I would think Nicholson insisted that he about it, hut it would be a wrench to leave Rhonehurst."

Nicholson went on to deny he was on his way out, invoking an of the first two in the trainers' The stories stating that certain

claimed Maguire had quit because of lack of public backing a pawn in the relationship between Smith and Nicholson. The trainer firmly denied that his own job was under threat. would stay at Jackdaws Castle for as long as he wanted.

Nicholson has not been out

championship since he moved ago. Smith responded yesterday to the speculation about the yard which cost an estimated £5m to construct. "I have heard the rumours concerning Ruby Walsh coming here but that is not in the equation at present," he said. "But if in the future David sits down and persuades me we need a retained jockey it will be discussed as usual.

are all wrong. There is definitely nobody on the shortlist to replace David Nicholson. There is no secret here. I am happy with David, but if you say to me when is David retiring that is another question and I don't know. But I can state that we have agreed to discuss that as and when the matter arises." Saturday's Ayr meeting must pass a 2.30pm inspection today. Part of the track is under water.

# Maguire a victim of his former bravado

WE FIRST really poticed the brilliant young comet that was Adrian Magnire at the Cheltenham Festival of 1989. The teenage Irish amateur fired Omerta over the obstacles of the National Hunt Chase with a near suicidal style not witnessed since Jonjo O'Neill got out of the saddle. Even then, the message Maguire conveyed to his mounts was that he was going over the other side of a fence and they could join him if they cared. They usually did.

A Cheltenham Gold Cup on Cool Ground soon came Maguire's way and talk of him as a future jockeys' championship winner was not considered a prediction as much as a certainty. However, as he steps down as retained rider at David Nicholson's Jackdaws Castle yard, Adrian Maguire's tale should be required consideration for all jockeys coming into the sport. Maguire will now never win a championship. His best days are gooe at 27.

The Cossack, and as then unusual, style of the professionally infant Maguire is now the norm among the recent intake of bold, young jockeys, Maguire could count on the public back-

By RICHARD EDMONDSON

himself was first seriously derailed at Hereford in 1995 when Desert Fighter mangled him through the wing of a hurdle. He would probably have won the title that year.

Maguire started running into a sleet of misfortunes. Injuries and the tragedy of losing his mother, Phyllis, have meant he has missed three of the last four Cheltenham Festivals. When he did manage to make the Festival, last March, he took a numbing fall from Zabadi which ruled him out of the Grand National meeting.

For so long he had been able to put his head down and struggle through the hail, but receptly the crashes told. Where once he would be plastered to a horse's neck, throwing it over whatever came into their path, the posture is now defensive. When you see the modern Maguire at an obstacle, he is much further back in the saddle, apparently in anticipation of a fall. As a result, the falls come more frequently.

Throughout all this, Maguire

hear about Adrian ending his retainer," the trainer said yesterday. "We have had some good times and he's still welcome at Jackdaws Castle."

But dissension started to swell elsewhere in the ranks and several owners at the yard began to request the services of another rider, Richard Johnson. Johnson is a member of the new Turks now favoured by many owners and trainers. men such as Tony McCoy and Ruby Walsh who would attempt to jump the Grand Canyon if they saw a winning post on the landing side. Ironically, theirs is an attitude made common by

Maguire himself. The Irishman will still ride for Nicholson hut the alliance Robert Thornton, Olie McPhail is no looger what it was. There and Bob Massey, will also benis talk that Maguire believes retirement is an option. For now, though, connections are satisfied to put a happy spin on events. "Nothing will change at Jackdaws Castle in real terms except that Adrian will have a little more flexibility than he has now," Colin Smith, the stable's enjoy them while he can.

ing of Nicholson, whose support for him was – until recently – unflinching. "We are sorry to than he is now, and I believe he will ride a bigger percentage of the horses at the yard under the new terms.

"Now that Adrian is an independent free agent, he could say to David Nicholson, Here are 20 or 30 horses that I would be prepared to ride in all their races' and, for the rest of the time, he could partner what he wants to for other trainers.

Richard Johnson fits in like he always has done. He will ride a number of horses in the yard as he is doing now. All it means is we have got two jockeys who are also free-agents, hut there'll be no retained jockey here for the rest of the seasoo and possibly next season. I also think our other jockeys,

efit greatly from this." A shuffle then, it seems, with no losers, though cards and racing are not like that. Adrian Maguire is not now destined to be the ace of National Hunt racing, but there may be more good days ahead. He should

#### MAGUIRE'S ROLLERCOASTER RIDING CAREER

Born: 29 April, 1971. One of nine children. Rode over 200 winners in Irish pony

races.
Rode in point-to-points for Michael
Hourigan for three years, winning
Irish championship.
First winner under rules: Gladtogeth at Silgo on 23 April, 1990.
First winner in Britain: Omerta.
Cheltenham, 12 March, 1991
Appropriatesshir: Three years with Apprenticeship: Three years with Michael Hourigan, Co Limerick, one year with Toby Baiding Best season: 194 winners in 1993/4 (nuner-up in jockeys championship).

1993/4 (runner-up in jockeys' championship).
Seasonal totals of winners:
1991/2: 71, 1992/3: 124, 1993/4:
194, 1994/5: 130, 1995/6: 60.
Grand National: Third on Moor-oroft Boy in 1994.
Chaltenham Gold Cap: Won on Cool Ground in 1992.
Other big-race wins: Barton Bank (King George VI Chase 1993].
Sibton Abbey (Hennessy Gold Cup 1992), Omerta (Irish Grand National 1991), Mysilv (Triumph Hurdle. 1991), Wysiv (Triumph Hurdle, 1994), Viking Flagship (Queen Mother Champion Chase 1994), Baronet (Scottish National 1996), Call It A Day (Whitbread Gold Cup 1998).

Rode six winners in a day at an Irish point-to-point meeting
Rode first five winners on a sixm roote first rive withers on a sugar-race card at Plumpton on 29 August, 1994 (He had to pull his mount up in the last)

Rode five winners, a second and a fourth on a seven-race card on Rac-ing Post Chase day at Kempton on 22 February, 1997 for a 355-1 five-timer

■ Rode a treble at Sandown in Jan-uary, 1992 only for each winner to be disqualified later as he had claimed a 3fb allowance to which he was not entitled. was not entitled.

Missed the Cheltenham Festival three years running from 1994 to 1996, due to the death of his mother on the first occasion and injury wherements.

The luckless Adrian Maguire parts company with Barton Bank at the last fence with the 1994 King George VI Chase at Kempton at his mercy

#### WARWICK

12.50 Premier Generation 2.50 Wesley's Lad 3.20 Easby Joker 3.50 Perk Alert 1.20 Caballus 1.50 Charlle Banker 2.20 Smarty

Course is W or city on B4095. Buses from stations at Warwick (Im) and Learnington

MI Course is W of city on B4095, Buses from stations at Warwork (rim) and Learnington 5pa (2m), (from 1197) ADMISSION: Cub 513, Tartersalis 19 (accompanied under 165 freel; Course £8. CAR PARK: £5 in members; centre of course free.

FIVE-YEAR STATISTICS

MI LEADING TRAINERS: M Pipe 23 wins from 100 runners (23%), O Nicholson 22-104 (212%), Mirs J Pitman 14-69 (203%), N Twiston-Devices in 41 (136%), I Defension 17-70 (243%), N Williamson 17-76 (224%), A Maguire 13-59 (224%), W Marston 13-61 (16%), I FAYOURITES: 150 wins from 396 races (success rate 37.9%).

MI INNERSED EINST 1 MIRE Mora.

12.50 TINY TIM NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) 52,900 added

		2 m Penaity Value £3,036
	23-2	PREMIER GENERATION (26) (D) (BF) (P G) N Hendarson S 11 4 M A Fitzgerate
		RICARDO (14) (D) (Pat Wheten and Mr Edde Shorton) Mrs J Pfirmen 4 11 4 D Leahy
		ARCTIC FANCY (F56) (The Cool Customers) J G Smyth-Osbourne 5 to 12 W Mareton
	065	CARTOUCHE (261) (Denick C Broamfield) M Witarson 4 to 12 C Lieucityn
	3053-	CHOICE CUT (236) (Harvey Ashworth (MC) Ltd) 1 Caldwell 5 to 12
	60-	ELVIS (280) (The Chap Quartet) L Wells 5 to 12P Holley
	05	FILOU DU BOIS (FR) (42) (J M D J Racing) Miss H Knight 5 to 12
	00-45	FIT TO BUST (34) (The County Foursomes) N Babbage 5 to 2
	F	GENISTONE (FR) (19) (Mrs Diana Haine) Mrs D Haine 5 10 12
)	P-0	JALE (49) (Family And Friends) P Murphy 4 10 12
		KOMASTA (F69) (Mrs D Butler) Mrs D Butler 4 10 12
2	5/0P	MISTER RIVER (34) (Mrs Ann Shaw) D Esworth 7 to 12
3	0262	NASHKAPOUR (00) (Segrus Carrol) P Hobbs 5 10 12N Williamson
•	OFO-	SALFORD QUAY (370) (A J Thompson) Miss H Knight 5 to 12 JR Kavagagh
,	0-00	SHOPAHOLIC (12) (A L Brodin) S Sherwood 5 10 12
5	00F4-3	CHIPPEWA (FR) (78) (The Dionystus Partnersho) M Pipe 4 10 7 A P McCov
,	60/0-0	DANCING IN FILO (40) IM's Theresa Walshet T P Walshe 6 107 J Mosford (7)
3	66	ISCA MAIDEN (21) (Mrs C A Danes) P Hayward 4 10 7
7		MISCONFLICT (F92) (The Planmaion) Mrs. M. Jones 4 11 7

Premier Generation: Won 3 times on the Ret Last season and took advantage of a relatively low mark over jumps to land a handicap at Cheltenhern last month. Good 2nd off an 1th higher mark next time and less to do here.

Ricardo: Disappointed only start last season, out made impressive reappearance when

Ricardo: Disappointed only start last season, out made impressive reappearance when successful at Towcester 2 weeks ago. Bright huture, but has tough opponent to beat Arctic Fancy: Won at Brighton (mr4t, soft) in October, but has shown signs of temperament and plently to do against more experienced rivals. Cartouche: Some signs of ability in 3 outings over hundles and may do better in his 2nd season, but has not run since April Cholde Cut: Placed twice from 4 outings in bumpers last season. Showed he acts on soft ground when and at Haydock, but may need tarther. Elivis: Unplaced in 2 bumpers last season and better effort first time out at Sandown in March when 8th of 18 to Stewarts Pride. Ploo Dis Bolas Placed on the Flat in the French provinces and modest form in 2 outings over hundles. Will need to improve to figure here. Fit To Bust: Tailed off in both outings last season, but has shown promise this term, though this looks too competione.

Fit To Bust: Talled off in both outings last season, but has shown promise this term, though this looks too competitive. Gernstone: Maiden on the Flat in France. Hard to assess as he was a 20-1 chance and in mid-division when he fell 4 out on his hurdling debut at Donoaster this month Jabb: Won twice on the Flat last season over time! and weekened 3 out when 7th on his reappearance over hurdles at Taunton last month. Acts on soft ground Komasta: Won on the Flat (all-weather) as a 2-yo and first run for new yard Mister River: Promsing 5th in a bumper in 1996-7, but missed last season and no ago of abirty in 2 runs over hurdles test month.

Nashtapour: Ex-hish, runner-up in maden hurdles at Gowman Park and Punchestown Solfford Quary Unplaced in 3 bumpers last season: having his first outling for 12 months.

Sofford Quay: Unplaced in 3 bumpers last season; having his first outing for 12 months Shopeholic: Unplaced in competitive bumper won by Hidebound last sesson and lit

tie to recommend him on his 2 runs over hurdles so tile to recommend him on his 2 nuns over hurdles so far Chippewa: French import, who was clarined after firtishing 3rd in a 2m14 chase on his last outing at Auteuil in October and has not nun ance. Denoing in Rior. Hurdling debut after 4 outings in bumpera, but was tailed off in the final 3f at Aintree last month and looks an uniflety prospect laca Maiden: Maden handicapper on the Flat, who showed a little promise on her hur-dling debut at Ascot, but weakened quickly after 3 out when 6th at Taunton next time Misconduct: Won 3 times on the Flat last season at distances up to 10f for Gary Moore.

VERDICT: Ricardo looked a horse to follow when staying on strongly up Towces-ter's stiff run-in two weeks ago, but comes up against a useful sort in PREMIER GEN-ERATION. He is back in nowce company after two runs in handcaps and his 2nd to Red Guard at Sandown last time was a fine effort considering he had risen till bin the

1.20 BOB CHATCHIT NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) £5,000 added

	2m Penany Value 13,652
22-461	REVER WYE (21) (D) (Moodelets Wanderers) G Yardey 6 11 6
102-F1	NATIVE CHARM (29) (0) (Pel Mel Partners) C Worlock 6 11 1
1R01-0	CABALLUS (USA) (71) (CD) (Salamm Recing) Mrs J Pernan 5 11 0
	MELL BAY SAM (16) (David John Petters) A Diction 7 11 0
	ROYAL SCHITTAR (USA) (37) (C) (P J M Racing) M Tompkins 8 11 0
	SOL MUSIC (30) (The G & P Partnership) J King 6 tl 0 A P McCoy
	TUDOR FALCON (243) (Paul Bradley) P Bradley 5 11 0
	SANDREFT (14) (T J Ford) Miss A Stokel 8 10 6 C Torresy V

BETTING: 9-4 Filver Wye, 5-2 Notive Charga, 7-2 Sol Mill Bay Sara, Sandrill, 33-1 Tudor Felcon

1997: Melstock Weggle 7 10 2 M Berry (7) 6-1 (C Brocks) 6 ran FORM GUIDE River Wye: Comfortable winner on his chasing debut at Ludow (2m, g/s) this month. Won twice on good ground over hurdles and unproven on soft Native Charm: Quits useful hurdler, tell 5 out on her first appearance over fences last month, but won easily at Plumpton (4 ran) next time. Looks sort to do well in chases Cabustus; Has the physique to make a chase, but was temperamented over hundles and refused to race twice. Cheeling debut and good chance if he jumps off on terms littli Bay Samt Refused to start on his last 2 outings. Hee been tried in blinkers, but is

virtually unraced for a year and one to avoid Royal Scimilar: Won overhundes here (soft) in March and finished 11th of 30 in Supreme Novices' at Chellanham. Disappointing this season, but makes his chesting debut Sol Music: Made a few mistakes on his first appearance over fances this month, but Soil receive where a lew measured on he rest appearance own increases an increase, our still rain a promising 3rd to Royal Toast. Sure to win when his jumping improves Tudor Palcom: Soiling hunder, surprise winner (25-1) at Market Resen (Insary) a year ago, but pulled up on his other 3 outlings last season and first run over tences Sandrift: Moderate form over hundes and soon strugglang after halfway on her chas-ing debut when pulled up before 3 out at Towcester a fortinght ago.

VERDICT: Cabalius, a big strong sort, comes from a stable whose novice chassers have always to be respected. However, he refused to race twos test season and gave trouble at the start before winning at Chetianham in April. Experience counts in novice chasses and NATIVE CHARM, who had a confidence-boosting easy task at Prumpton last time and has shown she acts on soft ground, is narrowly prefered to River Wye

1	.50	MR & MRS TIDBALL NOVICE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) \$2,900 added 2m 3f Penalty Value \$2,476
	0203-1	RASH REFLECTION (196) (D) (D Cross Letture) C Weedon 6 11 10
2	444F0-	BERLIN BLUE (250) (Peter J Douglas Engineering) R Stronge 5 11 10
3	-941	CASHAPLENTY (PS) (C) U R Safer) N Litimoden 5 11 7
i	/P66-1	CHARLIE BANKER (26) (DR A C Partnersho) K Burle 5 11 4 N Willerson
,	04-5	HARRIGALE MOSS (88) (A Sternett & Mrs J M Sternett) A Turnel 5 10 12 R Johnson
,		SUPREME TROGLODYTE (293) (The Trops) C Morbol 6 to 5
i		CRAZY CRUSADER (16) (A E Frost D Gardollo 6 10 0 S Wytthe
3		ARTIC GROUND (13) (C W Book) P R Webber 8 10 0 A Maguin
3		PRECIOUS ISLAND (18) (J W Elis) J Pickering 5 to 0
10		LINE STREET BLUES (34) (The Blues Partnershot) T Keddy 7 to 0
n	0-0P40	SYLCAN EXPRESS (26) (P Kirlsand & Mrs J Gray) C Kalleti 5 100

Afarmum weight; 10st. True handicap weights: Casy Coseder Sot 13th, Artic Ground Sot 10th, Procious Island Rot 9th, Lime Street Blues Sot 5th, Sylcan Express Rot 5th.
BETTING: 9-4 Citudia Sankas, 5-2 Cashaphacty, 6-1 Bertin Blue, 7-1 Crazy Crusader, 10-1 Procious Island, Rash Roslection, 16-1 Harrigais Moss, Artic Ground, 25-1 others
1897: Macy 4 10 9 X Alzpuru (5) 8-1 (R Dictor) 14 ran

FORM GUIDE

Rash Reflection: Ex-Insh getting, who won a maiden hurdle at Kibeggen (2ndt good) in June. First run snoe and the handicapper has taken no chances with him Berlin Blue: Flat winner hande as a 3ye. Unplaced in 5 outings over hurdles for Charles Ecooks last season, but had some stiff tasks. First run for new yard. Cashaplenty: Steps up in ting after winning 3 times over 2n this asseon. Acts on soft ground, but has been raised another 7th since his last success. Charles Berliner: Landed a gamble (16-1 to 8-1) at Window the month in a handicaphurdle by 12 lengths and has been raised 8th. Lightly raced and scope for further improvement.

Harrigate Moss: Now qualified for handicaps after 3 unplaced runs in novice company. Bred to stay and may do better in time, though is not exactly well treated at the weights Supreme Trogfodyte: Placed in novice hurdes at around this trip in 1996-7 and seems race for some time when 2nd to Granby Bell at Hereford this month, with Precious is-

land 6 langits away in 3rd

Anotic Ground: Placed twice in bumpers last season, but has not shown much in 3 outings over hurdes. Did not appear to stay when thed over 2m4 last time.

Precious Island: Unable to quicken from 2 out when 3rd to Grenby Bell and Crazy. es: Has run 17 times over jumps without success and his two placings last season were both on fast ground

Sylvan Express: Novce hunder, 3rd in a bumper last season (2m, good) when trained by Chris Grant and does not seem to stay this trip VERDICT: Bertin Blue ran at some of the top tracks lest season for Charlie Brooks and this is more his level. However, as he could need this first run since April Cashap-tenty and CHARLIE BANKER may have the advantage in fitness. Ceshaplenty has been raised 22b since winning at Ultimeter lest morati, while Charlie Banker had plenty in hand when skating up by 12 lengths at Windsor last time.

2.20 VERA PENN (OH DARLINGS) MAIDEN CHASE (CLASS E) £4,000 added 3m 2f Penaity Value £2,846

BETTING: 11-10 Troub

FORM GUIDE About Turn: Showed a little ability when 22 lengths 4th to Cares Rose on Lencester chase disbut (3m. good) but unseated when in mid-division in Knight's Crest's race over this C/D latest and is clearly no world-beater. Alpha Leathers Beginning to look very moderate and was soon behind when 32 lengths 4th of 6 to Knight's Crest over C/D (good to soft) latest.

4th of 6 to Knightis Crest over C/D (good to soft) latest Butters Matich: Experienced point-to-pointer, but adelined since 25 lengths win at Molting-ton Timoritie ago. Possible outsider in a weak race. Coole Cherry: Winning point-to-pointer. 50-1, soon talked off after instakes and pulsed up 2 out in race won by Edmond at Towcester (2m6) nov ch, soft) after long lay-off Reging Galler Little sign of ability so fax, 50-1, behind from 9th when distant 7th of 13, to Safmon Breeze at Poliestone (2m6) nov ch, good to soft) on fencing debut Trauble Ahead: Form in bumpers. Going file a winner until blundered 2 out when 17 lengths 2nd of 9 to Ask Antony on chase debut at Heraford (3m1) moin ch, good to soft following 19-month lay-off. Open to improvement and looks a leading contender Majestic Storm: Form in Irish points before falling at the 9th in race won by Martbor-ough at Lingfield (2m nov ch, heavy) on fencing debut. Possible improver

ough at Lingfield (I'm nov ch, heavy) on fencing debut. Possible improver Smarty: Promise on debut and going with prenty of gusto in lead when fell 18th in race won by Gamison Priendly at Whoteor (I'm nov houp ch, good) latest. Possibilities VERDICT: TROUBLE AHEAD showed enough against Ask Antony at Herstord to suggest he can wri a race of the type. There may, however, be better to come from Sparity, who was looking set to play a major role when he fell in Garrison Prendly's race at Windoor, Majestic Storm and Budlers Match look the pick of the remainder.

2	.50	49°S CHRISTMAS PRESENT HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS C) £7,500 added 2m Penalty Value £5,488
	3/2213	SPEN SONG (19) (D) IJ E Funnelly C Mann 7 11 10 Mr N Fehilly (7)
		WESLEY'S LAD (26) (Bran Williams) D Burthel 4 11 7 D J Burthell
		YOUNG SPARTACUS (257) (D) (B G Helyer) H Daly 5 11 7
		MANRLENO (P202) (III) (John Pointon and Sons) Mice S Wilton 4 ft 5 A P McCoy
	F1F42	TOREKA (12) (D) DA'S C A Victorian) D Gardollo 6 105
	4-3043	RANGER SLOANE (23) (D) (G Firm) G Floro 6 10 3 X Alzpuru (3)

= 5 deciared -BETTING: 2-1 Sires Song, 4-1 Young Spertacus, 9-2 Tonks, 5-1 Wesley's Lad, 8-1 Ranger Sloane, 1997: Line Of Conquest 7 to 6 T Dascombe 15-8 fav (R Hodges) 7 ran

FORM GUIDE Shan Song: On the upgrade with easy Wordstein novice with and convincing 11/, length success over subsequent scorer Tickerty's Gift at Lingfield (2m hosp holie, soft). Raised 650 for latest win, but not out of it Wesley's Lact: Disappointing over 2m4i latest but go close on earlier 4 lengths 4th to Haiona over C/D (good to soft) and Laisester 2nd to Once More For Luck; Young Spartacus: Landed ordinary novices at Stratford and Luclow last term but imbations expressed when at landing 6th in Resterbal at IR. Approximations expressed when at landing 6th in Resterbal at IR. Approximations expressed when at landing 6th in Resterbal at IR. Approximations expressed when at landing 6th in Resterbal at IR. Approximations expressed when a landing 6th in Resterbal at IR. Approximations expressed when a landing 6th in Resterbal at IR. Approximations expressed when a landing 6th in Resterbal at IR. Approximations expressed when a landing 6th in Resterbal at IR. Approximation for the first Young sparareus. Lanced order by notices a southern and season has some as a southern batteries exposed when A lengths 8th to Rackettal at Bengo, Possibly needs farther Maniferno: Four-time source last term, letest from 13th lower at Ludlow a year ago. Side-

warrante: "Out-thre-score last term, less from 1 solower at Luciow a year ago, Solo-lined since all-weather Fist win in June and probably best weathed here. Tonker On the upgrade with Chepstow win from 1to higher and game 1 1/4 length 2nd to Nessun Dono at Warwick [2m hosp hide, soft), Weighted to go close. Ranger Stoaner, Back: near best when 15 lengths 3rd to Muldair at Huntingdon and one to consider on 4 lengths 3rd to Halone over C/D in Nov from 2b higher. VERDICT: Siren Song currot be ruled out while he continues to improve, out there may be more value in RANGER SLOANE, who appreciated a return to the minimum trip when third to Muletar at Huntingdon. He is now 10 lower than his wrining mark of Haydock 12 months ago. Wealey Lad looks another for the forecasts.

3.20 NEXT YEAR'S THE BIG ONE HANDICAP CHASE (D) £5,000 2m 4f 110yds Penalty Value £3,948

- 10 declared Menerum weight: 10st. Two handlosp weight: High Mood 9st 10th.
9ETTING: 190-30 Candinal Rule, 5-1 Karwailan Sam, 6-1 Cadeva Star, Essby Jokar, 15-2 Plunder
Bay, 9-1 Around The Gale, 9-1 Kir Sneggie, 10-1 River Bay, Segemen, 12-1 High Mood
1997: Stammore 5 to 2 S McNeil 9-2 (C Brooks) 6 ran

FOHM GUIDE

Around The Gale: Lightly raced since lest success in 1996. Below his best lest term, though fair 4 lengths 4th of 5 to Mertell Boy at Stratford 3m heap ch, good) in Merch. Empty Jokzer. Slipping in weights but needs to step up on latest 25 lengths 4th of 6 to River Unshion at Newcaste (2m4th cap ch, soft). McCoy booking could be significant Cardinal Rule: Yet to live up to promise of 11/s length win over Speaker Westherfill at Uttoweter in Oct 197. Below form 2 recent starts after lay-off and difficult to essess. Hawaiian Sam: Exposed performer, beginning to look high in the weights after 5b rise for length win over Haunting Music at Hurflingdon (2m 4t cond heap ch, soft). Plunder Bay: In-and-out performer 2 seasons ago (beat Calliste Bay at Uttoweter) but well beaten behind Sounds Like Pun at Sandown on return from 19-month lay-off. Segminan; Early-season Market Rasen and Worcester Winner. Probably Retirede by narnow 2nd to fivin Falts at Fontwell in October and looks Wilnerable off this mark. Mr Smegglec Completed 4-their from 2b higher in April 97. Fair corneback at Chepstow in Oct but wall-beaten 3nd of 4 to Sierre Bey at Towcester (2m houp ch, soft) since Cellieve Star: Signs of return to form when, challenging in 2nd, fall 3 out in race won by Carlingford Gale at Ultiowier (2m4) hoap ch, good to soft) in Nov. Go close filter Bay: Best race for a while when bit neck by Philatelic at Windsor (2m5) hoap ch, good to soft) of the mark but disappointing since and not one to rely on High Mood: Improved when 12 lengths 3nd of 7 to Step On Eyre at Bangor (2m 4) hoap ch, good to soft) last time. 4b out of handcap, but no lost cause.

**FORM GUIDE** 

VERDICT: Something of a lottery. Around The Gale, Eastby Joker and Cardinal Rule all capable of wirning on their best form, but CALLEVA STAR showed signs of a comeback last time and is from a yard finding its feet again. He has a mere feather-weight here with Robert Widger aboard and could be the value bet over the progressive High Mood, who still makes too many mistakes to be trusted.

3.500

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50	CHRISTMAS STANDARD OPEN NH FLAT RACE (CLAS H) £1,500 added 2m Penaity Value £1,445
	BEGIN AGAIN (7 Bowers) P R Webber 4 11 4
n.	CACCINI (286) (G Waterman) C Popham 4 TI 4
•	CALFSTOWN LORD (Miss H Day) Miss H Day 6 11 4
	CASA FINA (Peter R Masters) M Ppe 5 17 4
	COMBE SPRINGS (Mrs Nigel Waghton) C Barwell 5 11 4
	GET ON GEORGE (Roy Matthows) S Brookshar 4 11 4
R.n	HERBAL WISE (14) (T J Ford) Miss A Stokel 6 H 4
	KONGSBRIDGE (Freddie Starr) M Pipe 4 11 4
0	KING WIZARD (54) (The Roung Hares) P Hobbs 4 11 4
00	MEADOWS BOY (8) (Richard Edwards) & Palling 6 11 4
2	PERIC ALERT (33) (Mrs Dawn Perrett) D Nicholson 4 11 4
- 1	PLIZZLEMAN (21) (D J Caro) D Caro 5 11 4
7	RED MIST (Winter Machess) Miss H Knight 4 11 4
102	SMOIONG GUN (26) (Mrs Drane Snowden) W Jenks 5 H 4
D-0	
_	
4-0	
0-	WITHESWAAY LADY (236) (Mrs Leeley Baker) E Wheeler 5 to 13
-	C Web

EST: Wilmotils Parcy 5 to 6 S Kely (7) to 1 (Mas V Willams) 21 and FORM GUIDE

Begin Again: Market usually an accurate guide to this yards newcomers. Caccini 40-1, 7th of 14 to Black Secret at Folkestone (2m11 NH flat, good) on debut Calistown Ladt Antic Lord gelding out of Calistown Maid

Case Fina: West China gelding out of a lightly-raced mane. Looks stable second string Combe Springs: Going Broke gelding out of an unraced mane. Making debut Herbal Wise: 33-1, last of 11 to No Quarter at Towcester (2m NH flat, soft) on debut Kingebridge: Catalid gelding out of an unraced mane. Market should last the story for this newcomer from the powerful Ppe yard, which has a fine record in these events. King Wizard: Lurited support and no great promise when 17 lengths 8th of 19 to Monster (2m NH flat, good) Plenty to find Meedows 80y: No signs of significant ability on either start, the latest when 19 lengths 8th of 16 to Starting Again at Ludiow (2m NH flat, good) Plenty to find Meedows 80y: No signs of significant ability on either start, the latest when 19 lengths 8th of 16 to Starting Again at Ludiow (2m NH flat, good)

Park Alert: 33-1 and stable second string when bits head by stablemate Eddy's Son over C/D on debut, with previous Sandown winner Monseynor and statisequent Folkestone score No Forecast beland. Should not have to improve a great deal Puzzlemant: Open to improve an organized start of 18 to Happy Hussar at Ludiow (2m NH flat, good to soft). But this is a tougher race Red Mast: Ast gelding out of an unraced mane. Market probably the best guide Smooting Gent: Improved on debut when start of 12 to Happy Hussar at Ludiow (2m NH flat, good) and time obvious chance

Samoting Gent: Improved on debut when startying-on 13 lengths 2nd to Quiens Harbour at Investment (2m NH flat, good) and element flow hen 8th of 11 to Route Two Blow Wind Started favourite when, one pace from 21 out, 28 lengths 8th of 18 19 Slow Wind Thanks 8lg Felfat: Well backed when second on Trake debut for Paddy Prendergest Rev Debut From A s

VERDICT: David Nicholson makes few mistakes in this type of race and it will take something out of the ordinary among the newcomers to beat PERK ALERT, whose are the trio leared most

**THE INDEPENDENT** RACING SERVICES LIVE COMMENTARIES RESULTS 971 FONTWELL 972 982 973

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STRATFORD Gong: Saft

Gong: Soft

12.50: (2m 8) Tüydə məidən hurdie)

1. GOODTIME GEORGE

R Ourmoody 11-10 fav

2. Percy Parkeeper — C Lleweilyn 9-2

3. Strong Magic — D Galtagher 20-1

Also ram: 100-30 Playlord (4th), 16-1 Kaz

Kalem (5th), 20-1 Beau Brumnie Boy, 25-1

Flying Pootsie (6th), 33-1 Springford, 50-1

Edge Ahead, Remi Doone, 66-1 Regel Buff, 11 ram, 29, dist, 11, 4, 3/2, (Mrs. J Pitman, Upper Lambourn) Total: E250; £100 £190, £440, DF: £430. CSF. £520.

1.20: 2m 6f 10/ds maiden hurdie) 

Mubaraka 10 ran. ½, det 2½, 17.8. (Mrs O Haine, New-markett, Tota: £850; \$160, £110, £620, DF: £510 CSF: £1626.

RESULTS (601), 100-1 Woodlands Led Too. 15 ran. 15, 11/4, 9, 1, 7 (0 Williams, Newbury). Tota: £3,70; £1,50, £10,70, £4,10, DF: £209,30. CSF: £117.28. Tricast: £1,427.23. Winner bought in for 5,200 guine

1 Anotherone To Note. 5 ran. 8, hd. 21. (R Lee, Prestaigne). Tote: £160; £130, £180. DF: £180. CSF: £287. 

LINGFIELD Going: Standard

12.48: 1. COLERIDGE (J Wison) 12-1; 2. Padauk 14-1; 3. D Principe 7-2 19 ran. 5-4 fav Noukan (Sth). 1-34. (J Sheehan, Find-ort) Yote: P2:0; 2:150, 12:0, 2:150, DF: \$4430. CSF: \$4450. Thicast: \$54855.
1.10: 1. PRINCE PROSPECT 16 Whitworth) 1-3 fav; 2. La Plezza 11-2; 3. Bluewater Bay 44-1 6 ran. 8. hd. 68ts L Stubbs. worth) 1-3 fav; 2. La Piazza 11-2; 3. Blue-water Bay 14-1 8 ran. 8. hd. (Mrs L Stubbs, York). Yete: 2150; 2130. S170. DF: 2250. CSF: 22-11.

1.40: 1. JACK GOODMAN (Dane O'Neal) 3-1 co fav; 2. Skr Perne 3-1 co fav; 3. Matchik 14-1 8 ran. 3-1 co fav Miss fake (4th). Y. 1/6. (J Moore, Andows). Tota: 2390; 2130, 213. DF: 2350. CSF: 21143.

2.10: 1. DAPHNE'S DOLL (P Fradericks)

11-8: 2. Pearly Queen 14-1; 3. Jonathan's Gtrl 50-1. 8 ran. 4-5 fav Social Round (putled up). 14, nk. (Mass Gay Kellemay. Lingfled). Tote: £2.80; £130, £430 DF: £340, £5F. £16.25 BURNING (G Faultman). 2-40: 1. CASTLES BURNING (G Faultman). 2.40: 1. CASTLES BURNING (G Faukmer) 10-11 kay; 2. Prospector's Cove 5-4; 3. Sellates 22-1 4 ran. Hd. 22 (C Cyzer, Horsham) Totel 220 DF: STI0. CSF: L208. 3.10: 1. ROYAL ROULETTE (A Clari) 2-1 kay; 2. Pertismps Mission 7-2: 3. Operatios 9-2. 9 ran. 11. 11/4. (Missa 8 Sanders Esson) Totel 22-1 kgs. 11/4. (Missa 8 Sanders Esson) Totel 22-30; C120 C130 C140 DF: S580. CSF: C791 Theost C24-48 3.40: 1. HUGWITY (A Poli) 5-1. 2. Barbason 5-2 (t kay: 3. Genium 12-1 7 ran. 5-2 it law Smart Not (6th) 4, nk. (7 sin. 5-2 it law Smart Not (6th) 4, nk. (7 sin. 5-2 it law Smart Not (5th) Totel 28-30. C230 DF: 2350. CSF: C748 Treast: C3327 NR Begule. Place 6: £2741 Place 5: £592

FIRST SHOW WARWICK 3.20 Condinat Rate 11-4 10-3 7-2 7-2 3-1 Basiby Joker 8-1 11-2 8-1 6-1 6-1 Hampallan Senn 11-2 5-1 9-2 11-2 6-1 Callang Star 7-1 6-1 6-1 5-1 5-1 Around The Gale 9-1 9-1 8-1 8-1 9-1 Plancier Bay 7-1 8-1 8-1 8-1 8-1 Mr Swaggle 8-1 (0-1 8-1 (0-1 8-1 Rhear Bay 11-1 Rhear Bay 11-1 (0-1 8-1 Rhear Bay 11-1 Rhear Bay 11-1 (0-1 8-1 Rhear Bay 11-1 Rhear Bay 11 11-1 10-1 10-1 10-1 (8-1 10-1 8-1 11-1 9-1 10-1 14-1 12-1 9-1 11-1 12-1 Each-way a cith the colds, places 1, 2, 3 C Coral H William Hit L Ladbroles, S Stanley 7 Total

احكذا من الاعل

Ashes tour: Recall for controversial bowler and talisman for final Test as jubilant England celebrate famous triumph

# Australia to gamble on Warne's spin

THERE IS a good deal of hluff BY DEREK PRINGLE and bluster involved in the Australian psyche and no sooner had Alec Stewart's team won a Test match than Australia's selectors went knocking on Shane Warne's door. Suddenly this series has got serious and it is Australia, panicked into change by an England side fired by passion and renewed purpose, who appear to he under pressure.

Warne may be Australia's talisman, but he has not played a Test since the tour of India last March following surgery to his right shoulder. Instead, when he has not been dodging questions over his meeting with Indian bookies, he has been easing his way back into the limelight with the Victoria state

Yet, if he has got through an impressive amount of overs. the wickets have come in dribs and drabs, and those who know him and have seen him bowl say that the arm speed of old has not yet returned and that playmg him now would compromise both the bowler and the

Warne, however, feels he is ready for a return to the big time, and be comes into the squad in place of Matt Nicholson and not of Stuart MacGill , it who, despite a barnstring tweak, is almost certain to play. That means Australia have three spinners and two pace bowlers in their squad, an indication that they clearly expect the Sydney pitch to turn big and

shoulder injury any more," said Warne after he bad been picked for the final Test, which starts on Saturday: "It feels good and I'm ready. In fact it's got to the stage now that if Tubs [Mark aylor] wants me to bowl as many overs as possible, I can. Mind you, getting picked and team. Drafted in to bowl in the going back to Sydney feels like nets, he has travelled with the a bit anxious about it."

in Melbourne

Shoulder operations are notoriously fickle, and there were times during his rehabilitation when Warne felt that his playing days might be over.

"After I got out of the sling and nothing was happening I started to think what I might do. I'm not qualified at anything, Basically I've dedicated my life to cricket and I wouldn't know what to do. Maybe I could start coaching or go to England lo teach leg-spin bowling.

"If you look at the pure stats, England do not play leggies that well. But I'm sure they'll be coming out with a point (o prove. They are on a bit of a roll and with their tails up, they might come out and try to attack us a bit in the last Test."

Warne, has been one of the great draw cards of the last decade and only the most oneeyed England supporter would not wish him well. Cricket needs players of his calibre to generate interest in the game.

Good luck to the lad if he's ready to play," England's coach. David Lloyd, said. "I know he'll be itching to get going again. "Whenever we play teams like Australia, they hit us with

two things - hig pace and wristspin. In fact they've got the option of playing two leggies in "We've got big pace but we

haven't quite got the wrist-spin yet. Hopefully either Ian Salishury or Chris Schofield, Lancashire's young leg-spinner, will give us that in the future. In fact the sooner we get Schofield involved the better. It may sound daft but, if it were me, I'd pick him for Sydney."

Schofield, who has been playing grade cricket in Melbourne. is no stranger to the England

under his belt, he is still a oovice, and playing him in Syd-ney would be a risk distinctly un-English in its daring.

Far closer to home were the ritual celebrations that tend to follow any extraordinary victory. Lloyd, like most of the England players, looked shattered, a mixture of hangover and ebbing euphoria still coursing through

Only Test cricket can provide stomach somersaulting moments like those on Tuesday evening. As the nerves of both players and spectators were wound tighter and tighter, the pain becomes almost blissful. If the lows can be disheartening, and heaven knows this England team have endured more than their fair share of them, the highs are vertiginous.

\*Considering it was over in four days, it was a really memorable game," Lloyd said, "We were several overs down on the run rate, hut because it was such a brilliant contest, with spectators on the edge of their seats, the match referee scrubbed the lot.

"Also we had their coach, Geoff Marsh, come into our dressing-room and shake everyone's hands, to say fair dinkum and well done. It's little things like that which made it a really top day."

Like Taylor, Lloyd felt that the superb catch taken by Mark Ramprakash was the moment that turned the tide England's

"We've been bemoaning the fact that we couldn't hold on to any of the half chances, those little reflex catches that can change things. When Ramps took that catch, it gave us all a hell of a lift. Mind you, he'd been pumped up all tour and be, along with Nasser Hussain, bave been outstanding both as players and individuals."

Aware of the speculation that my first Test and ohviously I'm team to Adelaide and Hobart. has recently appeared re-



A smiling Shane Warne anticipates his return to the Test arena for Australia in the Sydney showdown

was thinking of standing down. "It's not my intention to stand down, but then it won't be my problem as it's out of my control way," he said.

"Til keep working until some-

tack. As far as I understand it, my contract is until the end of 1999 season and I've got the full support of the people around

ing if Lloyd had been caught at Alex Tudor and Warren Hegg to

Melbourne has changed all that.

volved with this England team, and what you play and make all After the debacle in Hobart, Lloyd added: "What I really that, sometimes, it goes the kyne 5-0-31-3. A Hollioake 4-0-25-7 With only two first-class games garding his job, Lloyd denied he one says we're going to change it would not have been surprise enjoyed was for new players like other way."

an emotional low point. But for see a game like that. That's him as well as everyone else in- what Test cricket is all about. those sacrifices for It's just

Cairns shared a sixth-wicket

stand of 137 to guide New

Zealand to a four-wicket victory over India in the second Test

The Kiwis, resuming the

final day on 73 for 4, chasing 213,

suffered an early blow when

nightwatchman Paul Wiseman

was trapped lbw by Javagal Sri-

nath off the fourth ball of the

morning, However, McMillan

and all-rounder Cairns steadied

the ship to put their side 1-0 up

Cairns was out for 61 and

Cairns was relieved to contribute after failing to take a

Dion Nash hit the winning

wicket in either innings and scoring a second-ball duck in the first innings. "I was nervous for the first time in a long while and it was good to have to play

with some real pressure on."

The New Zealand captain,

in the three-Test series.

boundary off Srinath.

he said.

at Wellington

Kiwis hold nerve to

take vital advantage

CRAIG McMILLAN and Chris India 208 & 356

### Alleyne sets up country victory

England XI 281-7 Queensland Country XI 228 England XI win by 53 runs

MARK ALLEYNE picked up three wickets to add to a halfcentury with the bat as England's one-day side completed a comfortable 53-run victory over Queensland Country in Brisbane.

Alleyne, the Gloucestershire captain, struck an unbeaten 52 as England racked up 281 for 7 from their 50 overs, and he then took 3 for 31 to halt the hosts' progress. The captain Adam Hollioake, overlooked for the Ashes series, top-scored for England with 81 from 78 balls after his younger brother Ben had made 51 batting at No 3.

The opener Nick Knight (6), Neil Fairbrother (0) and Mark Ealham (1) all missed out hut there were handy contributions from Vince Wells (26), John Crawley (19) and Robert Croft (12 not out).

The Country side, made up of part-timers from rural Australia, reached 86 for 1 after 22 overs but were unable to maintain the chase against England's disciplined attack and were all out for 228.

It was a useful all-round performance by England in the first of their warm-up matches ahead of the triangular series with Australia and Sri Lanka.

B C Hollicake b Toohey..... J P Crawley c Frakes b W Smith... N H Fairbrother b W Smith... Did not bat: A Glies, G Hamilton

Entras (ID19 w/ ID4) Total (49.5 overs) Falt: 1-1, 2-56. 3-112. 4-139, 5-1 6-160, 7-167, 8-197, 9-226. Semiline: 8 Holloake 5-1-20-0

New Zealand 352 & 215-6

New Zealand win by 4 wkts

most mentally demanding Test

match I've been involved in. You

would go home every night

mentally knackered," he said.

Azharuddin said dropped

catches cost his side dearly and

he called for a radical change

before the final Test, which

starts in Hamilton oo Saturday.

Final day, India won toss
INDIA - First Inaliags 206 (M A Azharudchin 103no; 5 8 Doul 7 for 65).
NEW ZEALAND - First Indiags 352 (D
J Nash 89no, D L Vettori 57, N J Astle 56;
A Kumble 4 for 83].
INDIA - Second Innings 356 (S R Tendulkar 113)

India's captain Mohammad

#### **CATTERICK**

12.30 Alhawa 1.00 Prolific Agency 1.30 Incepeth Beile 2.00 Pin Mony 2.30 Ceneral Flight 3.00 The Next Waltz (nb) 3.30 Pennyahei

GOING: Good (Good to Soft in places).

Left-hand course, undusting and sharp. Not suitable for the long-stricting horse. Run-in 240yds.

Course is NW of town on A618. Darlington station 14m - bus service to course ADMISSIEN: Club 612: Tattersalis 68: Course 6250 (under 16s frea into all enclosures). CAR PARK: Reserved

area 52, remainder free
FIVE-YEAR STATISTICS

ELEADING TRAINERS: Mirs M Revoley 23-102 (225%), M Hammond 15-132 (114%), Mirs S Smith 13-92 (141%), R Garritty 14-76

ELEADING JOCKEYS: P Riven 25-7 (299%), R Garritty 14-76

IEA%), A B Smith 13-93 (14%), 8 Storey 13-144 (9%),
E FAVOURITES: 121-340 (356%).

ELONG DISTANCE RUNNERS, Church Law (300) sem 188

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Danbys Gorse (3.00). 12.30 STAND MAIDEN HURDLE (CLASS E) (DIV I) £3.000 added 2m 0 ALBERT THE BEAR (35) J Berry 5 11 5 ... ......

FORM VERDICT There are a few interesting horses here, notably Albert the Bear, the ex-New Zealand-trained Britlant Star and Orive Assured. However, although stamma is a slight doubt, FINISTERRE is selected to get off the mark at his find attempt over hardes. 1.00 CAMP MAIDEN CHASE (CLASS E)

496-00 PROLERC AGENCY (15) F Murphy 5 11 5....Mr J P Michamera (5) 8

BETTING: 6-4 Fits De Cresson, 13-8 Independent Grey, 7-1 Profitir Agency, 18-1 King's Country, 18-1 Bellydavid, 20-1 Doc-halliday, 25-1 Persussive Talent, 33-1 Pacific War FORM VERDICT

Fils de Cresson has obvious clams, but is unificity to be any sort of price, and the value will be elsewhere. Having shown signs of improvement on his first run over tences here test time, INDE-

1.30 FINGALL SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS G) £2,000 added 2m

0/P6-1 DORANS WAY (28) (CD) G M Moore 7 120 .... M Hennity (7) 

- 14 declared -BETTING: 5-2 Brancepeth Belle, 9-2 Salinger, 5-1 Dorams Way, 6-1 Selton Blake, 10-1 Rinus Major, 12-1 Western General, 16-1 Captain Tendy, Conner's Croft, 20-1 others

FORM VERDICT Although in theory Brancopeth Belle is a blot on the handcap, she taces very different conditions today compared to Market Rasen last Saturday, and could be worth opposing at the Skely odds. Do-rans Way is one possibility, but the Handicapper has been harsh on him, so it could be worth taking a chance with TWO BILLS from 2.00 ZETLAND NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £5,000 added 2m 3f

Bayerd St. Somy, Rigg St. 7th. BETTING: 3-1 Carllele Bandito's, 9-2 Melitanison, 13-2 Sousse, 7-1 Stones-by, Pin Mony, 8-1 Master Hyde, Somerby, 12-1 others

**FORM VERDICT** This can go to CARLISLE BANDITO'S, who has steadily been finding his form over fances, is well hundleapped both on his form over hundles and on the evidence of he last run at Doncaster. Sourage and Stonesby look the dangers.

2.30 STAND MAIDEN HURDLE (CLASS E) (DIV II) £3,000 added 2m

FORM VERDICT

With Aginor a disappointment over hurdles so far, there are very few that can be given a serious chance here, so having shaped well in a good race first time at Ayr, BEGORRAT looks to have an us chance. General Flight and Mollinsburn may prove his

3.00 GOATHLAND HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £5,000 added 3m 1f 110yds 

Maximum weight: 10st. True hardisage weights: Cultane Lake 9st 13th, Another Red 9st 13th, Copperhant 9st 12th. BETTING: 4-1 The Next Waltz, 9-2 Hog's Way, 5-1 Another Fox, 11-2 Grate Deel, 8-1 Denbys Gorse, 16-1 Church L

FORM VERDICT
The two to concentrate on here took to be ARCTIC FOX and The Next Waltz with preference for the former who has taken well to tences. The selection probably should have won over C&D test time and in this less competitive contest tooks to have very solid claims.

3.30 BARTON CONDITIONAL HANDICAP HURDLE (E) £3,000 added 3m 1f 110yds 

FORM VERDICT

Pennyahei is in good form and was only caught close home last time, but she continues to rise up the handicap despite not win-ning. Preference is for HITCHHIKER, who has been running well this season and will appreciate the ground.

India and Pakistan to stage Test series

#### Stephen Fleming, said the match had been the most ex-Mmpires: E.A. Nicholls (West Indies) and E.A. Watkin (New Zealand) hausting of his career. "It is the

PAKISTAN AND India are to put an end to a 10-year standoff after it was announced yesterday that the two countries have agreed to meet in a Test match in Delhi next month.

JY Lele, the secretary of the Board of Control for Cricket in India, said that Pakistan will play two Tests against India before the two countries are joined by Sri Lanka to take part in the inaugural Asian Test Championship.

India and Pakistan, including ongoing military exchanges over the disputed border in the northern Indian state of Kashmir, have been the main reason behind the two countries' refusal to play Test cricket. The last such series was in 1989. when India toured Pakistan.

Pakistan are due to meet India in the first Test oo 28 January before travelling to either Kanpur or Madras for a second Test, scheduled to begin oo 4 February. The two nations will then be joined by Sri Lanka to contest the Asian Test Championship, with the final taking place in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

However, organisers have had to exclude Bombay as a venue because of statements by Bal Thakeray, leader of the Political animosity between city's right-wing Shiv Sena government, who is opposed to cricket tours between the two countries.

PAKISTAN TOUR OF INDIA: 23-25 Jan Three-day match (tba): 28-1 Feb First Test (Delhi): 4-8 Feb Second Test (Madras or Kanpur): 11-13 Feb Three-day match (tba) ASIAN TEST CHAMPIONSHIP: 16-20 Feb India v Pakistan (Cakulta), 24-28 Feb Srl Lanka v India (Colombo), 4-8 Mar Pak-istan v Sti Lanka (Lahore); 12-16 Mar Fi-nal (Dhaka).

#### **FONTWELL**

1.10 FLAMENGO (nap) 1.40 Muilintor 2.10 Colonel CoR 2.40 Just Nip 3.10 Juhn Drumm

3.40 Another Night 3.40 Another Right
GOING: Hurdle course: Soft (Good to Soft in places). Chase course: Good to Soft (Soft in places).

Left-hand hurdle course; figure-of-eight chase course. Tight crouit, not suitable for long-striding horses.

Course is Soft village at (unction of A29 and A27. Barnham station (Brighton - Portsmouth line) 2m. ADMISSION: Club C13. Tattersalls C9 (accompanied under-46s free); Saver Ring CS. CAR PARIK: Pierce area to plus C5 for each occupant; remainder free.

FIVE-YEAR STATISTICS

LEADING TRAINERS: P Nicholis 25-53 (472%), M Place 24-89

FIVE-YEAR STATISTICS

LEADING THAINERS: P Nicholis 25-53 (472%), M Pipe 24-89 (27%), J Gifford 20-127 (15.7%), R Buckler 18-77 (23.4%).

LEADING JOCKEYS: A P McCoy 37-142 (26.1%), P Hide 20-17 (17.3%), R Dummoody 17-81 (21%), A Maguire 15-81 (8.5%).

FAVOURITES: 222-512 (43.4%).

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Cherokee Boy (2.70).

	1.10 AULD LANG SYNE NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 2m 6f 110yds
ı	1 10 AULD LANG and added 2m of 110vds
1	(CLASS E) £3,000 added £17 57 1157
	1 50-1 FLAMENGO (FR) (27) O Sherwood 5 11 5
1	SOF POLICE FORTION (28) (D) P Nichola 5 1: 5 R Duramondy
ı	2 5-in YORKSHIRE EDITION (28) (0) 1 12
1	AND A MARKETALE OUT ON 1 H CALIBY VICE
ı	5 21-04 FINE ATTITUDE (42) R Roue 6 to 12 B Fenton
ı	
ı	
1	4-46 YEAR DESIGNATION WAS INCIDENCE.
ļ	
ı	
ł	TO F1-2 QUETAL (17) I Casey 5 to 2
3	II LE-DUM SEPONDA COME LOND INC.

 BETTING: 9-4 Yorkshire Edition, 11-4 Flamengo, 4-1 Quetail, 6-1 Jim Jam.
Joey, 12-1 Fine Attitude, 16-1 Jiszz Dufce, Keen Bild, 20-1 others \_ 11 declared -

FORM VERDICT

The form of the previous winners famining and Yorkshire Edition looks suspect, and thiny are opposable under their penalities. QUETAL, who shaped well on his hurding debut and should improve for this step up in distance, by preferred. Brostatej Ort is a dark one who has to be considered, too.

HOGMANAY SELLING HURDLE (CLASS

Ľ	1.40	G) £2,500 added 2m 2f 110yds
1		ADILOV (16) (CD) J Bridger 6 TJ 8 L Cummins (3
2		DANCING POSER (14) (BF) G Salding 8 11 8 F Kentry (7)
3		MULLINTOR (23) (CD) R Rove 7 tl 8
4		SPRINT UP (FR) (44) M Pipe 4 TI 8
5	-44030	CAROL'S DREAM (42) M Plenen 6 to 12 L Concorne (7)
6		MALBALM (GER) (F88) OBridgeeser 4 to 12 T.J Murphy
7		MEMORY'S MUSIC (F10) (CD) M Madgwick 6 10 12 _B Fenton
8		WONDERBOY (F10) J.R. Pouleon 4 10 12
9		CERTAIN SURPRISE (B4) M Madgwet 4 107. J Goldstein (S) (
10	00	SODELX (20) A H Harvey 4 to 7

### 100 Sunsean year of the transport of transport of the transport of the transport of the transport of transport of the transport of the transport of the transport of transport of the transport of the transport of the transport of transport of the transport of the transport of the transport of transport of the transport of the transport of the transport of transport of the transport of the transport of the transport of transport of the transport of the transport of the transport of transport of the transport of the transport of the transport of transport of the transport of the transport of the transport of transport of the transport of the transport of the transport of transport of the transport of the transport of the transport of transport of the transport of the transport of the transport of transport of the transport of the transport of the transport of transport of the transport of the transport of transport of the transport of the transport of the transport of the transport of transport of the transport of the transport of the transport of transport of the transport of the transport of transport of the transport of the transport of the transport of transport of the transport of the transport of tr FORM VERDICT

A moderate effer offering MULLINTOR an obvious opportunity to follow up his recent runaway course win in a similar event. He seems to have little to feer from his rivals with the exception of the German import Malthaum. David Bridgwater has made a promis-ing start to his training career and it is interesting that he starts this multiple Flar winner off in the bottom grade. Perhaps the market will be the best cuide to his prospects

2.10 YEAR'S END NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (E) £4,500 added 3m 2f 110yds 

FOOP CLARE'S SPRING (49) R Hodges 5 to 0 ...... T Osecombs - 9 declared -

Minimum weight: 10st, True handicap weight: Clare's Spring 9st 13tb. BETTING: 11-4 Colonel Colt. 4-1 Cherokse Boy, Quiet Moments, 9-2 Prospero, 7-1 Rambling Sam, 6-1 Proceed, 16-1 Bearys Cross, The Ten Amioos, 33-1 Clare's Spring FORM VERDICT With stamina likely to be at a premium, QUIET MOMENTS must

he hard to beat if he reproduces the form he showed to beat the promising ex-pointer/hunter True Fortune at Ultoweter He is still on

12 40 NICKEL COIN CHALLENGE CUP H'CAP

Ľ	HURDLE (C) £6,000 2m 6f 110yds				
1	2111-2	FADALIKO (FR) (43) (BF) P Nicholis 5 to 0	R Dumeo		
2	14-134	JUST NIP (26) Mrs L Ficherds 5 11 8	J Osbo		
3	002P-3	FAR DAWN (USA) (23) Mrs A Perset 5 11 7	C Max		
4	/5/P	BELMORE ROCK (248) (CD) M Pipe 11 11 2	T J Men		
5	06-13	HOLBORN HILL (23) C Mann 6 11 1	المسالم		
B	5-F3P2	TOP NOTE (26) J Gifford 6 to 7	P#		
7	R425/0	PEATSWOOD (23) M Madgwck 10 10 6	B Fee		
В	250	HEVER GOLF DIAMOND (12) (CD) J Best 5 to 4.	L Currentes		
9	6.5124	WELSH SILK (51) D Gandofo 6 to 1	D Gallag		
		- 9 declared -	_		

BETTING: 9-4 Fedeliko, 7-2 Just Nip, 9-2 Holborn Hill, 5-1 Belmore Rock. 6-1 Far Dawn, Top Note, Welsh Silk, 12-1 others FORM VERDICT

traffy much better then he showed on his first run for new connections, but there is a question mark against his abil-ity to stay this trip JUST NIP, a good fourth at Sandown in a race which is working out well, looks a solid each-way atternative. Belmore Rock appeals most of the others.

3.10 WHITELAW CHALLENGE CUP AMATEUR H'CAP CHASE (E) £4,000 added 2m 3f

04-301 CIPRIANI CIUEEN (23) (CD) J Giford 8 10 4 ...Mr R P Varian (7) -2236P ANOTHER COURSE (17) C Mann 10 10 0 . . . Mrs C J Mann (7)

Minimum weight: 10st. True hendicup weight: Another Course 9st 3th. BETTING: 2-1 John Drumm, 5-2 Twin Falls, Cipriani Queen, 5-1 Prerogative, 20-1 Another Course FORM VERDICT

A weak race in which there are many more negatives than pos-

tives. CIPRIANI QUEEN, the least exposed of the quintet, is a token

3.40 'AMAHORO' HANDICAP HURDLE (D) £3,750 added 2m 2f 110yds

- 8 declared -

BETTING: 2-1 Nordansk, 11-4 Another Hight, 7-2 Takesmemo, 6-1 Macy Keep Me in Mind, 16-1 Fountain Bid FORM VERDICT Another uncompetitive affair NORDANSK has arrund clams on his reappearance run over C&D (holds Keep Me in Mind) and probably found 2m4f beyond him next time. He may have found a

talse pace against him most recently when he would have been

closer but for being awkward at the last. He is preferred to Macy

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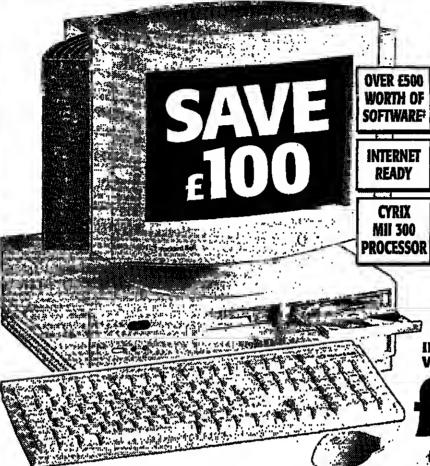
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# Ward ready to \*fight for his Rovers place

ASHLEY WARD explained yesterday that a "gentleman's agreement" had paved the way for his £4.25m move back to the Premiership.

After signing a four-and aburn Rovers, the 28-year-old added that he was not worried about joining a cluh brimming with forwards. The striker said he had no fears about competing against the likes of Chris Sutton. Kevin Gallacher. Ewood Park on Saturday. Nathan Blake and Kevin Davies

after his move from Barnsley. "I've never made any secret of my amhitions to get back into the Premiership and Barnsley knew that." he said. "We had a gentleman's agreement that they wouldn't try to stand in my Rovers came in for me. Fair play to the chairman. John Dennis, he has been as good as his word.

"I expect to have to tight for a first-team place. II would be of goals along the way. disappointing if a club like this allowed anyone the luxury of just walking into the side. There type of players you would want

BY KIERAN DALEY

are a lot of talented players here and there are certainly a lot of half year contract with Black- top strikers about. All I want to do is to make sure that I get into the team and stay there."

Under the seven-day rule, Ward will not be eligible to play in Blackburn's FA Cup tie against Charlton Athletic at

Blackburn's manager, Brian Kidd, made Ward his second major signing after recruiting the Northern Ireland winger, Keith Gillespie, from Newcastle United a couple of weeks ago.

Kidd said of his new signing: 'Ashley is a link player, someway if clubs such as Blackburn one who can hold the line while are try to get the ball forward and play in the opposition's half. He's a target man if you like but he gets his fair share

> "I've admired him for a while, you always look at the

### Kinnear's rich feeling

JOE KINNEAR the Wimbledon manager, is playing a cat and ruthless agents - and winning.

let players go when a big cash offer came in, he can now say no. The lure of transfers to the likes of Manchester United. Arsenal and Liverpool no longer holds sway for the club's promising stars.

Instead, Kinnear is able to future of the club as they sign

five, six and seven-year deals. He explained: "I'm no longer mouse game with football's under pressure Io sell. Gates have gone up to an average of Where Kinnear once had to 18,000 and when we started ouI it was 6.000.

"We're now reaping the rewards of being able to stay in the Premiership, Previously, I've always bad my own budget. There's never been money put into the club. This year I've not had to sell. It's allowed Sam bold on to what he sees as the Hammam to invest and me to build the squad."

them. I know people will say we bave a lot of strikers here now and I am also aware that no player is happy when he's not playing. But I must do what's best for the club and competition for places is a must. It gives you the cutting edge.'

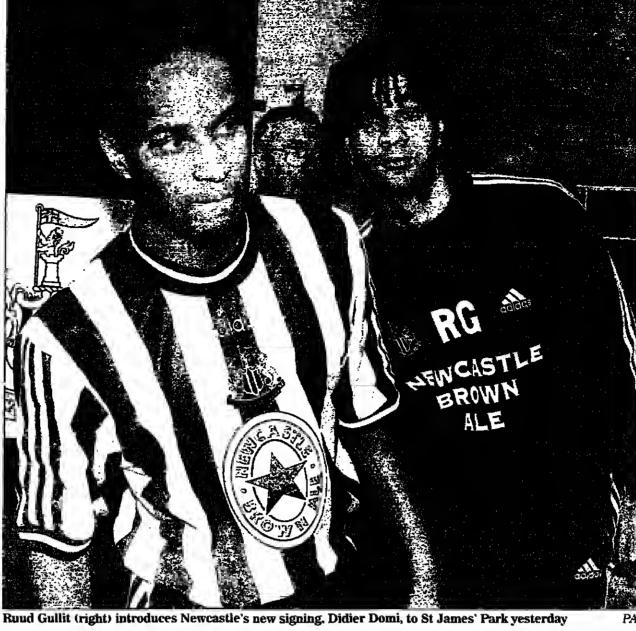
John Aloisi, the Coventry City striker, has apologised to Portsmouth fans for leaving Fratton Park on the cheap, and said he fears for the future of the First Division club.

The £1.5m-rated Aloisi, who scored his first Premiership goal against Tottenham al the weekend, moved to Highfield Road for only £650,000 two weeks ago to ease Pompey's financial problems.

Aloisi, who had scored 17 goals this season before his move to the Sky Blues, said: "I still talk to people down there and the fans are not happy that the chairman is selling so many players. I feel so sorry for the supporters who were brilliant to me and I wanted the best for them. They were angry when I was sold, and going on the cheap did them no favours.

"But I had no other choice than to come to Coventry. The manager [Alan Ball] also had no say in the matter. He is also not happy and I really do fear for the future of the club now."

Meanwhile Coventry's almost annual battle against relegation from the Premiership - they have now gone seven games without a win - has suffered a double setback with the suspension from 9 January of Stephen Froggatt and George Boateng, who bave hoth reached the five-booking mark. Egypt, Ghana and Morocco are ics World Cup without incident



### S Africa stakes claim to stage World Cup

fensive yesterday after officially entering the race to stage the 2006 World Cup.

"We have more than enough world-class stadia for the evenI and superb road, rail and air from some rivals that a high links," the World Cup bid committee chief executive, Danny Jordaan, claimed in Jobannesburg.

SOUTH AFRICA went on the of- the other contenders and a and are constantly gaining met the requirements to host spokesman for Fifa, world football's ruling body, said no more candidates were expected before today's deadline.

Jordaan dismissed claims crime rate makes the country unfit to host the event. "We hosted the 1995 rugby union World Cup, the 1996 African Na-England, Germany, Brazil, tions' Cup and the 1998 athlet-

ground against organised crime," be stressed.

Jordaan criticised those who claim Africa will not be ready hy 2006, saving there were more flights from Johannesburg to Cape Town than from London to Manchester. "Europe wants to determine when they are ready and when we are ready. They are not entitled to decide when we are ready. We have

the World Cup," be said.

Morocco, which unsucces fully hid for the 1994 and 1998 finals, added its name to the list earlier this month. The other countries all submitted their official bids in November.

Fifa inspections will be completed by 31 January 2000, with the decision being made by its **Executive Committee in March** 

# Achilles tendency strikes Gloucester

TE MUST be catching. Gloucester's most expensive signing of the season, the former Wales BY CHRIS HEWETT flanker and captain Kingsley Premiership campaign after he suffered one of the most rupturing an Achilles tendon during the narrow defeat al Wasps last Sunday, thereby emulating Jon Preston, his direct counterpart at neighbour- his boots before being forced to ing Bath, who managed to prang himself in identical fash-Harlequins a month ago. neither of the West Country's fallen giants would bave any

Jones' Premiership career

BASEBALL

#### BOXING

cented by the ptomoter Roger Levirr, who said the contest would

painful injuries in the medical lexicon and while he lasted 140 minutes longer than Preston, who barely had time to lace up swap one of them for a plaster cast, it was not quite what the Cherry and Whites had in mind when they signed him from Ebhw Vale in November: "He's bad an operation and he's looking at six months on the sidelines." John Fidler, the

RUGBY UNION

Gloucester team manager, No 8, who lost almost a stone in forwards coach next week fol-

Bath at Kingsholm on Saturday in an derby of profound significance; both sides are on the slide after a run of Premiership defeats and the respective coaches, Richard Hill and Andy Robinson, are beginning to feel the heat. Gloucester shelved plans to name their side yesterday - Philippe Saint-Andre, their French international wing, is struggling with a thigh strain - and while Bath were happy to reveal their hand, there was still a doubt over Dan Lyle, the influential American

Ironically, Gloucester meet low last week.

Perry among the replacements despite being England's pre-eminent full-back. Bath pulled the same stuni a little under a year ago when they recalled Callard to kick the goals against Brive in the Heineken Cup final and it is a sign of their desperation that they feel obliged to repeat the gamble.

Bristol, the third and, for the time heing, lowliest of the traditional West Country triumvirale, plan to announce a new

weight to the virus that laid him lowing the departure of David Egerton. The former Bath and Jon Callard will play, howev- England No 8 cited husiness a decision that leaves Matt and family reasons for his decision. "My wife is expecting in February and I have too much on my plate," he explained.

Bob Dwyer, director of rugby at the Memorial Ground, has already lined up a replacement and expects to confirm the appointment before his side's Tetley's Bitter Cup match with London Irish on Sunday week. Darryl Jones, who split the coaching duties with Egerton last season, will continue in his role as backs specialist.

# **Duff sets North on**

JOANNE DUFF, the Loughbor-ough Students' sweeper, set Women's Under-21 title with a first-minute penalty corner strike as they overcame the holders, Midlands, 3-2 at Milton Keynes yesterday.

The match should have been over when, in the 17th minute, Clare Hesslewood added a secand for North, but Kate O'Riley pulled one back from a penalty stroke. Saily Wright scored a South equaliser seven minutes into the second half but North's winner came from Sandeep

Kaur in the 57th minute.

Midlands had flattered to deceive earlier when they were held to a 1-1 draw with West O'Riley put them ahead with Nina Emery equalising midway

Also earlier, South had over-

### Reilly not ready to risk recall for Wright

RUGBY LEAGUE

BY DAVE HADFIELD

THE UNVEILING of Huddersfield's new half-back pairing will bave to wait, because Nigel Wrighl is not yet ready for action. The former England and Great Britain Under-21 standoff, thrown a lifeline by Huddersfield after being released by Wigan because of a string of injury problems, is due to form a partnership with the Test scrum-half, Bobbie Goulding, to lift his new side away from the bottom spot in Super League they occupied last season.

However, the new Huddersfield coach, Malcolm Reilly, has decided against risking Wright in the New Year's Day match against Halifax. "After being oul of the game for so long, be needs a bit longer to get himself organised," Reilly said.

Also missing will be Huddersfield's new Australian signing, David Boughlon, hut they expect to be otherwise at fullstrength.

Great Britain's current first choice stand-off, lestyn Harris, returns to Leeds' team for their friendly against Castleford the same day. Harris missed the Boxing Day game against Halifax with a groin strain, but has been passed fit to take his club position of full-back tomorrow.

Leeds also have their two Australians, Brad Godden and Marc Glanville, back in their side, but two teenagers of whom great things are expected this eason, Karl Pratt and Kevin Sinfield, retain their places.

Leeds' chief executive, Gary Hetherington, wants to organise a testimonial match for the wife and two children of Roy Powell, the former Leeds player who died at the age of 33 after collapsing at training with Rochdale Hornets this week. Hetherington hopes to stage a match involving players from the four Yorkshire cluhs for which Powell played - Leeds, Bradford, Featherstone and Batley - next month.

Rochdale have already decided to put the proceeds from their New Year derby against Oldham into a fund for the family. The players will wear black bands, in memory of Powell and another Homets player, Karl Marriott, who also died suddenly two months ago.

Bramley, Leeds' tenants at Headingley, have pulled off a coup hy signing the former Sheffield Eagles prop, Danny McAllister, from the defunct Gold Coast Chargers.

The Super League newcomers, Gateshead, have been told by Hull KR that their Papua New Guinean stand-off. Stanley Gene, is under contract and not available for transfer.

Mark McGwire, who hit a record 70 name runs for the St Louis Cardi-ials last season, has seen named The associated Press Male Athlete of the

newspaper report stating that the le of the Aged bout between bolomes and George Foreman been called off was yesterday 2.3 January.

NEW ZEALAND SOUAD (for third Test v India, Hamilton, starting Sat-urday): S P Flemmg (captain). M J ritine, M D Bell, R G Iwose, C O McMil-on C L Carms, A C Parore (wichetkeep-t, D J Nash, O L Verton, S B Doull, G I Dott, P J Wiseman

#### DARTS

SKOL POC WORLD CHARRPIONISHIP (Circus Tavera, Purfleet) First round: 8 Anderson (Engl by K Delier (Engl) 3-2; P Taylor (Engl) by R Harding (Engl 3-0; J Losse (Engl) by P Lim (US) 3-0. Second round: C Lazarento (Engl b) S Brown (US) 3-0. D Smith (Engl b) M Manning (Engl 3-1; P Manley (Engl) bt G Stoddart (Engl 3-0; A Warriner (Engl) br H Robinson (Engl 3-2).

#### FOOTBALL

Hartlepool United are lining up a bid to resurrect Peter Beardsley's play-ing career. The former England in-ternational has been contacted by the Victoria Park club after being re-leased by Kevin Keegan's Fritham at the beginning of the month. the beginning of the month. Butniey have broken their transfer record – spending £750.000 – to re-sign their former defender Steve Davis from Luton Town.

#### SPORTING DIGEST

Coventry winger, 29, joined Wigan from St Johnstone on a free transfer undet the Bosman ruling at the

son club. Hearts have also signed Derek Lilley, the former Morton striker, on loan from Leeds United.

RE-ARRANGED DATES, FA Carling Premiership: Mon 1 Mar: Lecester \* Leeds from Sot 27 Feb). Nationwide Football League: The. 25 Jans Rymerham v Cardiff (from Sot 2 Jons; Sun 28 Mar Peterborough v Mansfield (from Sot 27 Mar).

SUSPENSIONS: FA Carling Premiership: Sendings off C Armstrong (forenham, B McGovern (Avsenal) both 1 match from 2 Jan; C Hanson (Derby) 2 marthes from 2 Jan; C Hanson (Derby) 2 marthes from 3 Jan; R Germand (JArsenal) 3 marches from 5 Jan; R Five cautions: C Morton (Derby), D Beckham (Man Urd).

G Festa (Middlesbrough), C Perry (Wimbedon), D Powell (Derby), P Wanchope (Derby) all 1 march from 2 Jan; I Harte (Lees Utd.) 1 match from 3 Jan; C Tiler (Chalffon) 1 match from 2 Jan; I Harte Lees Utd.) 1 match from 3 Jan; C Tiler (Chalffon) 1 match from 1 Jan; C Tiler (Chalffon) 1 match from 2 Jan; C Tiler (Chalffon) 1 match from 2 Jan; C Tiler (Chalffon) 1 match from 2 Jan; C Tiler (Chalffon) 1 match from 3 Jan; C Tiler (Chalffon) 1 match from 2 Jan; C Tiler (Chalffon) 1 match from 3 Jan; C Tiler (Chalffon) 1 match from 3 Jan; C Tiler (Chalffon) 1 match from 3 Jan; C Tiler (Chalffon) 1 match 1

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Schladming99% BULGARIA	Grear on high ru	пs 40	50	23.12	20	Cloud
Borovers 100% CANADA	Excellent condition	ons50	60	25 12	οč	Bngh
Whistler 95% FRANCE	Fresh snow	180	195	28.12	-6C	Flume
Chamonia80%	More area open	60	155	21.12	-2C	Cloud
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(Brighton), D Farrell (Pererborough), J Laddate (Scarborough) all 1 march from 2 Jan; J Chambers (West Bromwich) 3 marches from 2 Jan; D Tremble (Scarborough) 2 marches from 3 Jan; D Tremble (Scarborough) 2 marches from 3 Jan Pine caustoris: B Pates (Macciefield), P Carkson (Blackpool) both 1 march from 1 Jan, S Thompson (Chestel), 5 Eurron (Crystal Palace), D Maddia (OPR), 5 Wilson (Rochdale), J Dootson (Barnet), I Cox (Bounemouth), R Thomas (Brighton), L Ashcroft (Grimsby), R Ryan (Millwall), M Madey (Sunderland), W Hackett (Mansfield), D Kerr (Massfield), 5 Davis (Swindon), D Reates (Malsoil) all 1 match (rom 2 Jan; S Remisson (Scarborough), C Woodhouse (Sheffield Urd) both 1 match trant from 3 Jan; S Walthester (Moth

torn 1 match from 3 Jan; S Walters (1904)
I match from 4 Jan. Eight cautions: J Hoy-land (Scarborough) 1 match from 2 Jan
HARP MATIONAL LEAGUE OF RESLAND
CUP Final second legs Colf City 1 Sham-rock Rovers 0 (1997 - 11).
PONTINS LEAGUE CUP Group One:
Harriepool 0 Middlesbrough 4.
TUESDAY'S LATE RESULTS: FA Carling
Premierable: Chelses 0 Manchester Utd Premiership: Chelsea O Manchester Utd
O Leeds 2 Wimbledon 2. Rustionsvide Foothall League First Dhistigor. Novich 1 Winford 1. Second Dhistigor. Solvingham 1
Millwall 1 Scottish Premier League: Aberdeen 1 Motherwell 1: St. Johnstone 1 Dunfermiline 1. Scottish League Second
Dhistigor. Alloa 2 Schring 2 Ryman League
Second Dhistigor. Metropoliran Police 0
Footing 2 Unifer Sussex County League
George Unifer Sussex County League
First Dhistigor. Burgess Hill 3 Rechnil 1:
Langney Sports 2 Hassocks 0: Pagham 1.
Chrchestet 0: Ringmer 1 Hallsham 1. Jewson Wiessex League Cop second round
second lag: Newbury 1 Bournemouth 3:
Lymington 8 Brockenhurst 0. Jewson
Eastern League Cup Second round: Halstead 0 Felustowe Port & Youn 3: Norwich
United 0 Diss 4.

HOCKEY WOMEN'S UNDER-21 REGIONAL TOURNAMENT (Milton Keynes): South 3 North 3: Midlands 1 West, 1 West, 0 South 1, North 3: Midlands 2, Frigal populations: 1 North 7pts: 2 Midlands 4: 3 South 4: 4

ICE HOCKEY NHL: Tampa Bay 3 NY Islanders 0; Philadel-phia 4 Calgary 3 (ot); Montreal 5 Edmon-ton 2, Colorado 4 Vancouver 2.

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+1.3sec. 1245: 3 5 Lajunen (Fin) +34.3,
119.0: 4 A Harrmann [Swit] +49.2, 116.0:
5 F B Lundberg (Nor) +54.4, 109.5; 6 B E Vik (Nor) +55.3, 108.0, 7 L Rygl (Cz Rep)
+55.9, 106.0: 8 M Zanachi (Swit) + 1min
03.8sec. 108.5 Standings (after seven
events): 1 Manninen 935pts: 2 Vik 825: 3
F Gottwald (Aut) 515: 4 Rygl 438: 5 Harrmann 420

NORDIC SKIING

A New Year's Eve party may elude even the frontrunners on the sectond leg of the Around Alone Race from Cape Town to Auckland. Light winds have slowed rhe leader. Glovanni Soldini, whose Fila has a 200-mile advanrage with 350 miles to go over Britain's Mike Golding in Team Group 4. Still in fourth place is Isabelle Autissier, who has closed the gap to just 20 miles on the Frenchman ahead of her, Marc. Thiercelin, and Josh Hall in fifth place has reduced to 900 miles the dis-A New Year's Eve party may elude has reduced to 900 miles the dis-tance between himself and Soldini. At the top of Class II, with 800 miles to go, Jean-Pierre Moligne has stretched his lead to nearly 500 miles over Britain's Mike Garside, with the American Brad has been third an American Brad van Liew third, another 350 miles astem.

SKI JUMPING The German Martin Schmitt won the opening event in the Four Hills tournament yesterday to take his sea-son's tally of wins to five. The 20-year-old Schmitt, who was unknown before this season, is now favourite for the 47th Four Hills

FOUR HRLLS COMPRITION (Oberstdorf, Ger) First round: 1 M Schmitt [Ger] 244.8pts (Jumps of 120.5m and 115.5m); 2 A Goldberger (Aut) 242.8 [119.0, 114.5]. A Michael (Japan) 241.7 (120.0, 114.0]. A Wildhötzl (Aut] 239.3 (124.0, 109.5); 5 J Anonen (Fin) 238.6 (117.0, 115.0); 6 K Funald (Japan) 237.8 (118.0, 113.0; 7 H Myshids (Japan) 232.7 (117.5, 114.0); 9 M Horada (Japan) 232.7 (117.5, 114.0); 9 M Horada (Japan) 232.7 (116.0, 108.0), Wacrid Cap standings (after nine rounds); 1 Anonen 6530s; 2 Schmitt 640; 3 Funald 478; 4 Kasal 372; 5 Widhölzl 312, 6 M Aagheim (Nor) 261

#### TODAY'S FIXTURES

ICE HOCKEY SEKONDA SUPERLEAGUE: Cardiff Dev ils v Bracknell Bees (4,0).

OTHER SPORTS DARTS: Skol PDC World Championship

# the way to victory

North on the way to their first BY BILL COLWILL

through the second half.

come a two-goal deficil to draw 3-3 with North in an exciting game in which their goalkeeper, Beth Storry, had been oulstanding. South earned their only victory over West thanks to a Vicky Goodacre goal.

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	£50,000+	7.10%	6.70%	6.50%	
	£25,000+	6.90%	6.50%	6.31%	
	£10,000+	6.50%	6.10%	5.94%	
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	£100,000+	6.80%	6.40%	6.22%	
	£50,000+	6.60%	6.20%	6.03%	
	£25,000+	6.55%	6.15%	5.98%	
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	£5,000+	5.55%	5.15%	5.03%	
-	£500+	3.95%	3.55%	3.49%	
		, , ,		• -	

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31st December 1998

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# SP()RT



ENGLAND TO FACE SPIN WIZARD WARNE P25 INICHOLSON STILL KING OF THE CASTLE P24

see the Derby forward ex-

pelled, but not his Middles-

Dietmar Hamann's case re-

sembled Leboeuf's in that the

German defender's first cau-

tion was triggered by a far

second yellow card for the

sent off for violent conduct -

Stefanovic, Vieira, Wanchope,

Hamann and Leboeuf-are for-

It may be no more than a co-

brough adversary.

Newcastle player.

# Red mist rises for men in black

BY TRADITION, the Christmas football programme sorts out the contenders from the pretenders. This year it seems to have been operating to an entirely different agenda. If Philip Don, the Premier League referees' officer, had wanted to create an exercise with which to examine the way the English game is conducted by its officials, he could hardly have invented a more striking test. Half a dozen sendings-off appeared to confirm the view of English refereeing widely held abroad - in Italy, for example, where an official giving a lax or inconsistent performance is to referees." Don said. "Only said to have conducted his arbitration all'inglese.

potential champions at Stamford Bridge, Mike Riley seemed to change his mind over giving Franck Leboeuf a second yellow card for a 79th-

thus allowing the Chelsea captain to stay on the field and complete his side's goalless draw against Manchester United. Not surprisingly, Alex Ferguson, the United manager, thought he should have been sent off. More unexpectedly, Leboeuf and his coach, Gianluca Vialli, agreed.

Riley defended his decision yesterday, and was supported by Don, who had been stung by Ferguson's accusation that he had imposed "his vision of football" on the Premier League's officials.

"I do not issue instructions Fifa and the FA can issue those instructions. At the beginning In Tuesday night's clash of of the season all clubs are invited to send their manager to discuss the law changes and the interpretations. I shall leave you to draw your own con-



RICHARD WILLIAMS

Fifa's desire to remove violence from football has confused English referees

a meeting with me where we not Alex Ferguson attended." Not, presumably - although the man in charge of England's top referees perhaps clusions as to whether or ought to think again about the wisdom of using such elliptical formulations when delivering

The Stamford Bridge incident followed several contro- that its effect was exaggeratversial expulsions over the weekend At Blackburn on Sat- Paulo Wanchope's pugilistic urday Dermot Gallagher listened to his linesman's advice and sent off Michael Oakes, the Aston Villa goalkeeper, for handling the ball outside his area. Later, having looked at the video, Gallagher announced that he would be asking the FA to quash the player's automatic one-match ban.

On Monday four of the day's foul on Steve McManaman eight Premier League matches featured dismissals, all of them disputed. No one argued about the second vellow card for Dejan Stefanovic of Sheffield Wednesday against Aston Villa; both managers, however, questioned his first caution. Television suggested not merely that eign imports, although it sup-Patrick Vieira's red card for the ports the contention that such Sepp Blatter, to make it safe for other major European leagues.

use of an elbow against Neil players are unfairly treated, a children and sponsors, appears Redfearn had been provoked view voiced by Vialli after the recent Paolo di Canio affair. by the Charlton player's illegitimate harrying, but also More worrying, whatever the rights or wrongs of indi-

ed by Redfearn's play-acting. vidual cases, is the impression of judicial inconsistency. Our officials no longer benefit from an reaction to Andy Townsend's assumption of British fair-play which meant that when Jack vicious tackle was enough to Taylor gave a penalty to West Germany in the first minute of the 1974 World Cup final, or Clive Thomas whistled for fulltime as Zico's header zoomed towards the net eight seconds worse offence - a damaging into injury time of Brazil v Sweden four years later, their than the one that brought a objective judgement was not in question, although (in the latter case, at least) some may have wondered about their

incidence that all five men common sense. Fifa's desire to remove the last vestiges of physical contact from football, inspired by the intention of its new president,

to have confused the English -although, to judge from what one sees on television, virtually no one else seems in such a quandary. In Serie A, for instance, players argue with referees within a framework of common acceptance of the

game's laws.

Philip Don believes that fulltime salaried referees are the particular attention. answer and is a member of a four-man working party cur-rently looking at the wider inplications of his plan, which would see up to six such offmeeting in March, he will sugees' £400 match fee and expenses, bringing them clos-

English football needs to take serious steps to fend off the growing demand for the use of a fourth official, with access to video replays during matches - a development that would do irreparable harm to the game. The standard of linesmen, which seems to have deteriorated markedly since meaning and intention of the they were rechristened "referees' assistants", demands

To some extent, the problem has been created by television's desire to participate in the game it subsidises, and to make use of its evolving techcials appointed in time for the nology. But TV replays are start of next season. If the never going to be subject to re-Premier League chairmen re- striction. And again, the Italian ject his proposal at their next example suggests that their influence need not be destructive. gest an increase in the refer- All it takes, in a game that will never be in a better position to throw money at a major prober to the rate for the job in lem, is a willingness to behave

# Gullit declares £4m Domi a shrewd deal

IF THE increasingly demandag followers of Newcastle Unit ed were wondering what Ruud Gullit would be presenting this Christmas, then the manager answered their entreaties yesterday by unveiling a reassuringly expensive defender.

The left-back Didier Domi Park when he signed a four-anda-half-year contract which will include a further £750,000 based Song. Houllier is also chasing on appearances. Not bad for a Dundee's £1m-rated keeper into the senior French side.

Gullit defended the decision to invest in youth. "Nowadays, the youth players are also getting more expensive, especially when it is an international and deal has just 18 months to run. someone who has already played for several seasons for Domi was not registered in time to figure in Saturday's FA Cup third-round tie with First Division Crystal Palace.

Gerard Houllier was also seeking to beef up his Liverpool squad yesterday, with the defender Frode Kippe looking set to become the latest Norwegian to arrive at Anfield and the hunt for a new goalkeeper uppermost in the manager's priorities. Kippe, a 19-year-old centre-

FOOTBALL BY ANDREW MARTIN

back from Lillestrom, has been signed for an initial fee of £700,000, rising to around £2m if he proves a success.

Houllier has given the Italian completed a £3.25m move from club Salernitana 48 hours to de-Paris St-Germain to St James' cide whether to accept Liverpool's £2.6m offer for the Cameroon defender Rigobert 20-year-old who has yet to break Robert Douglas to replace the American Brad Friedel, who is unlikely to be granted a new work permit as he has made so few appearances this season. David James is the No 1 but his

One goalkeeper likely to be making a swift exit from the Paris St-Germain," he said. Premiership at the end of the season is Aston Villa's Mark Bosnich, who will hold talks with Roma this weekend.

Coventry have signed 20year-old Danish keeper Morten Hyldgaard for £200,000 from Ikast and agreed a loan deal for the Venezia striker, Stefano Gioacchini. They have sold defender Jean-Guy Wallemme to Sochaux for £400,000. Domi photograph,



page 27 Winning streak: Cliff Lazarenko, the white-shirted hero of darts' heyday, enjoys a return to form on the oche at the PDC World Championship yesterday

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#### THE THURSDAY CROSSWORD

hole - shock! (6)

work! (10)

belief (6)

with plenty skipping

Nest's uninteresting

no result in a storm (8)

Some primitive art (hys- 24

Crucial crosswords fi-

terically crude) (6)

nally give solutions (4)



**ACROSS** 7 Pupil taking in convict

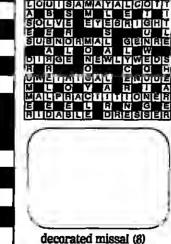
for protection (8)
9 Collection of tablets 22 Glass container with 23 Carefree holiday island ates Dicky (6) 10 Bars much-hyped bridge partners (4) 11 Sailor Bill embraced by 24

brothel-keeper? It's what goes on over the 12 Tell otherwise if leading 26 One's against me backto conclusion of testimo-

14 I obtain one sneakily

from the outset (2,6) 15 Tempt one learning trade to ignore first four items (6) 17 Gives a meaning to

numberless challenges 3 20 Rather thin greeting giv- 4 Convert that is clutching



Taking pessimistic view of time-saving possibly

Note about a regulation in African nation (6) A piano's inferior to noole feature of organ (6) 13 Be trendier, unconventional - choose an exotic mate (10)

Meet company with sort of knowledge not gener-ally available, we hear without first of eggs (4) Writing s-statement of

18 Fish in flustered dive ing operatic song or reli-gious song (3,5) swallowed by marine creature (3-5) Opera hat? (6) 21 An accomplished old Plant responding to sun

disrupter of governments (6) 22 Funny man, a good one, into mockery (6) Some made a fortune ignoring the words of others (4)

# Big Cliff's resurrection shuffle leaves Circus in carnival mood

Lazarenko's Lazarus act is proving the main draw

THE ATMOSPHERE at the Circus Tavern when the darts players are in town is an assault on the senses. You can see it. taste it and smell it, thanks to the combined efforts of a couple of smoke machines and puffers. Your eardrums bulge when someone hits a big checkout. And when you shift your rolling back the years this feet on the Tavern carpet, there is a faint stickiness, the legacy of a thousand spilled lager-

There is nothing in sport quite like it, especially when a legend of the game is about to fessional darts player. Even in make his way the oche. There a sport with little time for are not many of them left, the men who were household names in the late 1970s and 80s, a time when small children would write to Jimmy Saville claiming that their greatest wish in life was to meet Eric does nothing to flatter his fig-Bristow. The fortunes of people ure. He was the wrong side of such as Jocky Wilson, Bobby 20 stone even then These days, George and the Crafty Cockney himself have tended to mirror those of darts as a whole. Bristow, for one, was embarrassingly poor as he lost every leg

at darts' world championship, where the beer flows and the arrows fly true. By Greg Wood in Purfleet several hundred dedicated PDC World Championship on He was an 11-4 chance before tre of their target. With three of his match with Steve Brown the next four legs, Big Cliff One man, though, has been yesterday, which in a two-horse race is almost no-hoper terriweek, and the fans were queue-

ing from mid-morning yesterday to see him. It is 23 years since "Big" Cliff Lazarenko walked off a building site and into the uncertain life of a proweight-watching, his nickname came naturally. Lazarenko is big in the same way that water is wet, and, just in case anyone is in any doubt, there is the trademark white shirt, which

if anything, he is even heavier. Lazarenko never had the killer instinct of Bristow, or the wild streak of Wilson, but he never kept his feelings in either

Monday night.

tory. For the hundreds sweating in the Circus pea-souper, though, he was the main man, and they stamped, yelled and sang their approval for every

ton or winning double. Big Cliff soaked it up, and then started to give it back. The first leg of the match went to Brown, but then Lazarenko took three in a row and with them the first set. Ten minutes later, as he claimed the second set too, he tried a little dance. It turned out to be more of a wobble, but the crowd knew what he meant and the roars

grew louder still. For Brown, it was all too much. His shots at doubles were drifting into adjacent beds, while Lazarenko's

was into the quarter-finals, and the player and his army of followers punched the air as one. He is still among the out-

siders to win this, the first of two so-called world championships which will be played out over the next two weeks. Phil Taylor, the winner at the Circus Tavern for the last four years, is as close to unbeatable as any darts player has ever been. and would start as hot favourite for the rival championship, the Embassy at Frimley Green. were he eligible to play. In its present fractured state, though Lazarenko's sudden rejuvenation could be just what darts

"A while back I was going through the motions," he said afterwards. "I even put the darts away for two or three arrowed their way to the cenpractise. I've gone back to the nitty-gritty, to the way I was. I'm

being a hit raw." And putting on a show, keeping the punters happy. "The PR people might say that the Big Cliff white shirt is old hat," he said, "but if I walked out in dull blue, they wouldn't be able to relate to me. I still remember where I came from I know how it feels if you're not up there playing, so if I can give something back of the feeling I get from being on stage, why the hell not? I love this game, and it has deteriorated for long enough. It's

time now for it to grow again." Darts will never again grip the public consciousness like it did 20 years ago. Even when all things 1970s were briefly fashionable again recently, darts was not invited to the party. Yet when Big Cliff goes to the oche once more tomorrow night, the thoughts and hopes of thirtysomethings everywhere will go

with him. As the man himself put it yesterday "The big lens playing well End of story."
Results, Digest, page 27

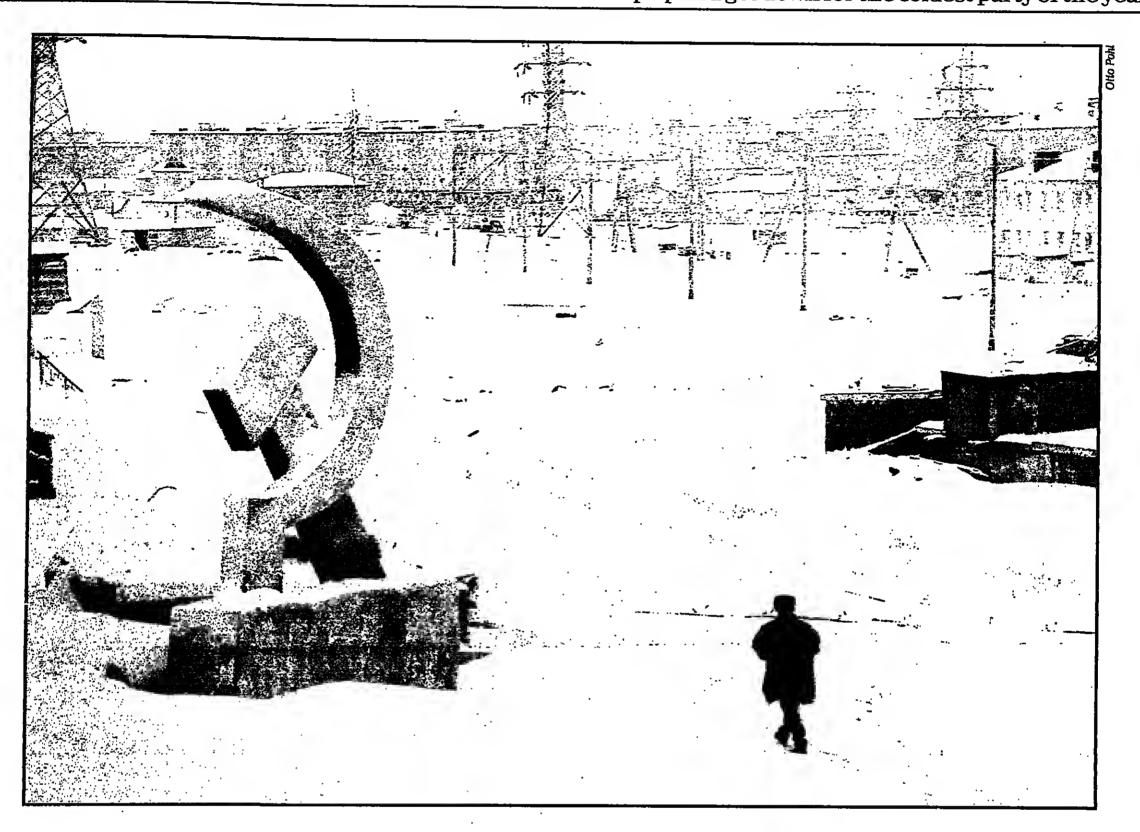
OPublished by Independent Newspapers (UK) Limited, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E145D1, and printed at Mirror Colour Prant, St Albans Road, Wasford and Hollinswood Avenue, Oldham, Back iss

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# THURSDAYREVI

COMMENT • FEATURES • ARTS • LISTINGS • **TELEVISION** 

Anadyr in Russia's frozen far north is the last place on earth that you'd choose to see in the new year. But, by a cruel twist of geography, it'll be the first to greet the new millennium. Wrap up and get down for the coldest party of the year...



# Of all the places in all the world, \* the century had to pick this one

his is where Time Present meets Time Past. A few score miles to the east, across the frozen Bering Sea, lies the International Dateline, the United States and yesterday. Head west across the tundra, and you also traverse hack in time through the 24-hour-sized segments that girdle the planet. There is no later hour than here: this is the first time zone, one of its hleakest parts. It is here, in Russia's far north-east, that

in one year's time this millennium will quietly slide in ext. Long before the citizens of London, Paris and New York have gathered to toast the first few seconds of the New Age, it will have dawned here on a world which, though permanently ahead of the clock, is heading backwards.

Welcome to Chukotka, the meeting point between Asia and the West, a region the size of France but which now has a smaller population that Reading. Welcome, to be more precise, to Anadyr, the regional centre where we have arrived as guests of the governor at the start of a four-day odyssey over the Arctic lands which he seeks to rule.

When, on 1 January, 2000, the sun finally drags itself above the horizon for a few sallow hours, it will illuminate these wide streets of ice, these dreary apartment blocks, shacks on stilts, and empty steel containers (testimony to the steady depopulation). In Fiji, New Zealand or Vanuatu, which share its time zone, the next century's first view of the

world will surely be idyllic - but not here. It is Saturday, but we are wondering where most of Friday went. On Thursday evening we boarded our charter plane in Moscow - nine hours' flying time and nine time zones away - and late Friday

night we disembarked. Our party comprises about dollar a kilo). The residents hang plastic bags of it a dozen Moscow-based journalists and a hlonde, mink-wrapped Moscow TV star called Aida Nevskaya, who seems to spend her time scouring the empty landscape in search of fans, and who bafflingly - has brought her sunglasses with her. Some of the group say they caught a glimpse of the day through the plane window, a red rag of light waved hriefly at us from the horizon. But most of Friday was lost.

So Saturday it is. Today our host, the governor. a stout and energetic man called Alexander Nazarov, summons us to tell us about Chukotka's economic prospects and problems. We are here because he is keen to attract international investment in the gold industry, as his semi-autonomous region has the second-largest reserves in Russia. He also reveals that he is planning to erect an international hotel in Anadyr, where the world's media can stay when they arrive to cover the opening of the millennium (the BBC is already expressing interest).

Later, he tells me that he has "big plans" for the special day. "We will set the tone for the new millennium," he declares. He doesn't, however, give

Certainly, the new hotel is a good idea. The current one is a run-down Soviet affair where the governor's enthusiasm for the new millennium is not shared by the staff. "We aren't interested," says Tanya Simkochova, 41, an administrator. "We have more important worries." Like, for example, wages: she hasn't been paid for four months.

Anadyr also needs a new restaurant. There are only two in town, one of which is a gloomy little dive that calls itself a pizza house. Here I am given a bun, with reindeer meat huried in it. Everyone eafs reindeer here, even for breakfast (it costs just over a

out of their apartment windows. In these temperatures, there's no need for a freezer.

Max, a client of the pizza house, looks like a reindeer-eater. He is a human tank with a tundra-like, quarter-inch haircut whose drink-fuelled desire to speak English far outweighs the minor inconvenience that he doesn't know any. But it is clear that the young man is not happy. "We - have - hig - girls," he says, gesturing at a table of women. Why, he asks - switching to Russian - won't we dance with them? So this, we can assume, is what New Year's Eve

#### BY PHIL REEVES

1999 will look like in Anadyr. At the end of the room, a solemn-faced man dressed like a Sixties Butlins redcoat is playing the "Macarena" on electric guitar. Soon the big girls are dancing hard, their feet thumping the worn floorboards.

SUNDAY: We set off in a 14-year-old Soviet AN-24 propeller plane north for Egyekinot - an old Gulag town - and then on by a battered Mi-80 helicopter to Konergin, a hamlet of 700 people mostly occupied by Chukchis.

History has been unkind to the Chukchis, the region's largest non-Russian ethnic group. For centuries, they lived on the tundra, subsisting on reindeer herding and hunting whale and walrus. while Russians, Americans, Britons and other adventurers swept in and out in search of furs and gold. But the Soviets decided to collectivise their herds a task that they were still struggling to accomplish by the Fifties) and put their children into boarding schools to force-feed them with Moscow's ideolo-

gy. Severed from their roots and traditions, the where nothing else is certain. "You get used to it." Chukchis fell victim to drink and social despair. They are now a favourite butt of Russian jokes - like the Belgians to the French.

There will be no pre-millennium tension here; no fretting about which frock to wear, or which party to go to. Here, like Anadyr, there are more pressing matters, such as survival. Any Chukchi born today is not likely to make it beyond four decades or so: average life expectancy has fallen to between 40 and 45. For most adults here, their experience of the next millennium is likely to be fairly hrief.

MONDAY: It is beyond comprehension that anyone should live in a place as cold as this. The low hills and forests of central Chukotka are cloaked in a grey haze of deep, deep refrigeration. It is like glimpsing the Ice Age. At minus 49 Celsius, the air is so cold that it scalds the lungs.

A rouble banknote held between the fingers turns hrittle in seconds. A half-eaten Mars bar turns so hard you can cut yourself with it. Touch a metal door handle without gloves, and you hit the pain zone where the fingertips cannot tell if they have been

We have flown west to Bilibino, 60 miles north of the Arctic Circle. The 11,000 residents (half the town's Soviet-era population) have various means of keeping warm - we meet one woman wandering around clutching a hot water bottle under her fur coat - but the main source of heat comes from a hig concrete atomic power station a few miles out

You might think that Bilibino's residents are none too happy about living on top of a nuclear station. Far from it. They like the plant. It guarantees them heat and light, treasured services in an ice-world

savs Ludmilla Dubina, a school librarian, who has lived here 23 years. "It is better to live near an atomic station, and have heat, than not to have any."

Vladimir Boiko, the local police chief, was fiving in Ukraine, his native republic, when Chernobyl blew up in 1986; yet he, too, has nothing bad to say about the power station. "What dn I care? At least we're warm," he grins. And that's true: Bilibino almost seems to revel in its round-the-clock heating: in the foyer of the sports centre, there are lemon trees

The governor is keen to show off his nuclear plant, so we drive there across the ice roads in Jeeps, their interiors lined with thick carpet to keep out the cold. Within, it is smart, bright, clean and husy. The conference room, where the acting director meets us to explain how his plant abides by international safety standards, is adorned with plaques proclaiming its excellence. These would have been more reassuring if several cameramen had not managed to get into the reactor area, unescorted and unprotected, while the governor's party and the staff gathered to toast each other with cognac.

The governor and his crew know they can get out of here. Vladimir Vodolaziski, 54, duty officer in the station's control room, moved to Bilibino 20 years ago, and cannot afford to leave. "I came here as a young romantic, and ended up a prisoner" he remarks. A prisoner trapped in an Arctic nuclear power station, thousands of miles from anywhere. You can hardly make a worse start to the new millennium than that.

TUESDAY: You need to drink to keep warm, to keep your spirits up in this twilight world. I entirely Continued on page 2

eaders and comment

Features Education Arts and Film

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Listings Radio

Beware the euro

The economic force of the euro will be such that, should it succeed. it will create a fragile world market, based around two major currencies and building trading rivalries between Europe and the USA. This is not only dangerous for world economic stability, but bears striking similarities to a proto-Orwellian world political situation. Smaller nations will be squeezed tighter and tighter and forced to compete more and more for their share of the market. This will naturally encourage collectivisation of economies elsewhere in the world on the lines of the European model, for example in Africa and South-East Asia, where security would surely be found in size.

Should the euro fail, on the other hand, then there would follow a period of austerity in European economies and the world markets as national monetary systems restarted. Either way, it cannot be beneficial to anyone either in the union or outside it.

Therefore, I implore the Government and the people of Britain, indeed the free world, to oppose this dreadful, sinister agglomeration of states. ALEX LEE Worcester

Sir: You seem to be taking the information for your articles on the launch of the euro straight from the EU Commission's (dis)information newsletters (Countdown to the euro, 29 December).

You assert that governments have actually created public opinioo against the euro. In the richer countries, it is not necessary to create anti-euro feelings. There can hardly be a more pro-European government than that of Germany. The German public was exposed to a deluge of pro-European propaganda; there is no credible political opposition to the euro in Germany Yet, the public remained for a significant part anti-euro. The public (not only in Germany!) trust the Deutschmark and don't see why it should be taken away.

Your article about the euro and France focuses on the euro-education of the young. Yet, whilst French public opinion is just about in favour of the single currency, the majority of the young (aged 16-25) actually oppose the abolition of the franc:

That those countries with weak currencies are in favour of the euro and those with stable currencies (such as Britain and Germany) are against. The true function of the euro appears to be that of development aid for the poorer EU member states. TOBIAS SCHUMACHER Brussels

Sir: In reply to Austin Spreadbury (letter, 29 December), may I ask two questions:

Could the Eurosceptics explain why a single currency would not expose companies and economies to the market forces they support? And why is it that our

continental cousins, so burdened with the yoke of Brussels, still manage to be more productive and better educated and enjoy a higher living standard than we do? The Eurosceptics, it would

appear, prefer to use the Channel to hide poor education, lack of investment and appalling productivity rather than face the chill winds of Teutonic efficiency. History has some pithy comments on those who try to disguise their weaknesses with a veneer of nationalism. JONATHAN DUMBELL London E15

Sir: If multi-ethnic states are "the future" (letter, 23 December) I sure

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Panto Season No 4: The musical director, Paul McClure, instructs the chorus in 'Dick Whittington' at the Northcott Theatre, Exeter

wish someone would explain that to inevitable suffering of civilian the ex-Yugoslavs, or for that matter to the Russians and Chechens. MICHAEL W STONE Peterborough

#### Caging Saddam

Sir: I am puzzled by Andreas Whittam Smith's article "Nothing has felt quite right about the attacks on Iraq" (21 December). There must have been innocents amoog those we bombed at Hamburg, Dresden, Cologne, Tokyo, Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Perhaps we shouldn't have gone to war in 1939. Perhaps we should have taken the view that hundreds of thousands of innocents would die in the liberation of Europe, as they did, and that cost would be too high.

What does not "feel right" is not the attacks on Iraq but the pusillanimous reaction to American and British efforts to reduce its capacity to act aggressively. Or do we have to wait for a hiological-chemical attack on Kuwait or Tel Aviv (which would really set off a regional fireball) for the rest of the world to take notice? J D NORMAN London N12

Sir: Since 1945 the declared aim of the international community has been to secure peace by means of a system of collective security, operated through the United Nations, by which any rogue nation will be controlled, firstly by

sanctions and secondly by force. Why is there auch opposition to bombing operations against Iraq? Saddam is a monster. If he confined his excesses to his own population, then it would be difficult to justify action against him. He does not, but has attacked his neighbours, using germ warfare against them, and is clearly intent on continuing to develop auch weapons and their means of delivery. Not to take action means awaiting the day when Iraq emerges as a fully fledged nuclear power.

If sanctions and air attacks are not acceptable, hecause of the

populations, then it would seem that there is no means by which a system of collective security can be enforced. The problem of Iraq is the acid test for the post-war foreign policy consensus, such as it is. There seems to be no replacement in sight. D'S HOSKINS Edinburgh

Sir: The cat-and-mouse tactics of Saddam Hussein with the UN weapons inspection teams has led, seemingly inevitably, to the recent air attacks. But would it not have been a far better policy to have left Iraq free of sanctions and inspections and to have set up a defence pact with Saudi-Arabia and the Gulf States so that any attack upon any of them by Iraq would

have called forth a united response? The Iraqi people would have been spared much hardship and the opposition forces within Iraq could have been more effective. As it is the Iragis have suffered from the West and have been encouraged to rally round the despot. The possibility of a policy of

Sir: Is it not time this

constructive for the

government did something

approaching millennium?

bank holidays? Locating

What about rationalising our

Easter is a mystery to most

of our present bank holidays

occur hetween 25 December

December so that the period

Christmas to the end of

and Whitsun. I suggest moving

from 30 December to 1 January

becomes a three-day holiday. I

three-day holiday at the end of

June and a one-day holiday at

Sir: Paul Waugh reports that

further suggest creating a

**EMRYS TURNER** 

Appledore, Devon

Geoff Hoon is "widely

people, no one knows for sure

when Jesus was born and most

rapprochement with Iraq's neighbours and the Muslim world has heen lost. JOHN MERCER Sidcup, Kent

#### Software option

Sir. Andrew Warren's letter (21 December) is composed around a few standard claims from Microsoft that are usually collectively called FUD - Fear, Uncertainty and Doubt.

Mission-critical applications are today running on open source software. It is not something that will or won't happen in the future. Open source software is based on standards, unlike Windows, which always tries to change the standards to conform to their products instead of the

other way around. Windows does not integrate well with existing products. Unix, however, in all its forms, is readily able to serve files and programs to Windows and to read Windows file systems. And it does so by the open source system called Samba.

"Wider acceptance" has so far

IN BRIEF

("Cunningham tries to stop the

feuding", 29 December). I have

would never stand in the way of

made no such objections and

talented minister. Promotions

alone and he will complete any

Sir. Let us fill the empty plinth

tribute to Chad Varah, who has

done more for humanity than

in Trafalgar Square with a

ministerial changes after the

end of the Christmas hreak.

Lord IRVINE OF LAIRG

Lord Chancellor

House of Lords

London SW1

the promotion of a highly

are for the Prime Minister

Paymaster General despite

expected" to become

objections from me

meant to me that I have been forced to use Windows software. I do so when I am paid for it. At home I use software that is based on standards, integrates well with my existing applications, supports all family members and never crashes. I have the Usenet for support; what it gives me is far, far superior to any phone support from any commercial supplier. BJØRN STEENSRUD

#### **Church of Mammon**

Sir: Spending Christmas with close relatives in London, we decided to visit St Paul's Cathedral on Boxing Day. Many others had decided to do likewise, a large number of whom were tourists.

We were amazed to discover that an admission charge of £4 per person had to be paid before access to the cathedral was allowed. Our intention had been to spend a short period in this wonderful building at an appropriate time. We came away disgusted at the cynical and hypocritical attitude of those who

anyone else I have ever met.

He created the Samaritans.

and offered hope to anyone

who have saved countless lives

needing it. The movement went

on to become world-wide in one

form or another. I auggest not a

statue - we have too many in

London, Let there be a giant

telephone of the kind we used

Samaritans in 1953. It should

Sir: Who could fill the empty

man for all seasons", and the

person of greatest virtue this

kingdom has ever produced" -

greatest of Loudoners, the

when he launched the

be carved in stone.

Mr LESLIE JERMAN

Theydon Bois, Essex

plinth better than that

Thomas More?

LORNA ARNOLD

#### Time for change

in vying for our cash?

Mrs ALWYNE DEAN

Sir: As we enter 1999, the issue of Britain's participation in European monetary union is still in the beadlines. Yet before such a decision is made, isn't it time we had British monetary union?

contrive to make money in this

way. We noticed that the tourists

looked puzzled but paid up. One

British family, not realising that

money was necessary, started to

walk past the barriers but were

called hack to pay. They also left.

We have, on many occasions.

and given willingly and generously

against all that the church teaches.

Is St Paul's now alongside public

parks and places of entertainment

monuments, museums, theme

towards upkeep. Why have compulsory payment in any church or cathedral? Surely this goes

entered cathedrals here and abroad

Those presenting Scottish banknotes often find they get suspicious glances in England. However, one evening as I was returning from a trip to Northern Ireland, I found myself unable to spend Northern Irish (sterling) notes at Victoria Station. Neither the ticket office nor a succession of snack bars wanted to take the cash a Belfast hole in the wall had given me. I was told that they could take Scottish notes, but that Ulster

money was "too foreign." Eventually, in a state of despair. I headed for the bureau de change. I explained that the money I had was "too foreign" for me to use and asked if they could change it into some Bank of England notes for me. However, I was told that, as it was British money, they wouldn't change it for me. I would have to wait until the following morning and change it in a bank. Clearly the money was "not foreign enough". Is joining the euro the only

way to eliminate these "little local difficulties"? SAMUEL BEST-SHAW West Malling, Kent

### Of all the places in all the world...

Continued from page 1 accept that. The climate here is so hostile that its own football team, Spartak-Chukotka - the governor's pride and joy - is based 5,000 miles away in Moscow for most of the year. But vodka for hreakfast? To be fair, there was a choice. Bottles of wine and beer also stood on the table. Requests for soft drinks bring puzzled looks from the restaurant waiters.

In the back of Russia's beyond, they seem to drink even harder than they do in Moscow. As we fly around the emptiness of the Arctic in our propeller plane, like the court of a minor medieval potentate, the governor's band of dishevelled aides crack open bottles of cognac and vodka and gobble down chunks of frozen wild goose meat and sausage. Yesterday, several were so drunk that they could barely get off the plane. The governor himself remains restrained, pondering the mighty issues that face him.

This morning we board the AN-24 and fly to Pevek, a port and mining town built on the edge of the Arctic Ocean six decades ago by prisoners at the height of Stalin's fanatical attempts to colonise the north. Thousands of people died in the process.

It is minus 33 Celsius, but there is a brisk wind coming in from the frozen sea that makes it seem even colder than Bilibino. We are walking along the front when an old woman approaches my colleague, Will Englund from the Baltimore Sun. "Cover your nose quickly!" she says. We notice that, although we have only been outside for a few minutes, the tip of his nose has gone bright white, the first sign of frostbite.

Every story here is a sad one. A group of municipal workers have been on hunger strike for a fortnight because they haven't been paid for three and a half years. "This town is quietly dying," says Alla Yev-stigneyevna. 59, the manager of a local grocery store. "It is an irreversible process."

· And dying it surely is; the population of the surrounding area has fallen from 34,500 in 1991 to 12,500 today, mirroring a fall that has seen Chukotka's population shrivel to 90,000, half the size of a few years ago. The Soviets - Russians, Ukrainians, Belarussians - are steadily moving out, abandoning the landscape again to the Chukchis and reindeer and wolves, But leaving is costly. Like everyone, Mrs Yevstigneyevna also wants to head for the real, light, normal world... if only she could afford a flat somewhere else.

Ten years ago, when he first arrived, this town was fun, says Dr Alexander Maslov. Like everyone, he was lured north by the promise of higher pay. At 32, he is now chief doctor at the Pevek hospital. A few years back, he earned the rouble equivalent of \$1,000 a month, and had a hig apartment. The streets teemed with life on holidays. No more. His salary delayed for months these days, like everyone else'a - is worth a fifth of what it once was. "What's happen-

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comean Duchess

ing is very hard to bear," he says. So hard that some people seem to be on the edge, grappling with total breakdown. When we go to a bar, a middle-aged woman with bright peroxide hair gives us – by way of a gesture of hospitality – a plate of slice lemons to eat. We return the con pliment by huying her a bottle Russian champagne.

A conversation starts, but within a few moments her mood changes from calm urbanity to tears and anger. "God has forgotten this place!" she bellows, trembling. "We gave everything to the Motherland! But we have nothing now!"

We leave, embarrassed, uneasy, eager now to end this odyssey of the Arctic, unable to offer any suggestion, any hope that would help her. or the rest of this abandoned place, to weather the first years of the new millennium.

Happy New Year, Chukotka, And when it dawns - may the next century be far, far hetter than the last.

# Here is the news forecast for the remainder of the century

YESTERDAY WE hrought you a snogging by Congress. His personal forecast of the main events of the first half of 1999 and today we complete our look at the year ahead.

Extraordinary development in Pinochet extradition case. One of, the law lords is said to be against "killing" and therefore likely to be biased. Whole case starts again. Millennium Bug is cloned in

laboratory conditions. Favourite for the Booker Prize is a novel written by an Albanian woman, set in Karachi, telling the deeply ironic atory of a four-foot high man whose ambition is to be known as the next Merchant/Ivory. England struggle in Second

Bill Clinton is found guilty of perjury, embezzlement and criminal ratings reach an all-time high. Hottest July on record. Global cooling blamed.

Solar eclipse in Cornwall. Not many dead.

found cure for cancer. England struggle in Fourth Test. After six months as Britain's film censor, Andreas Whittam-Smith decides to go solo and form his own

Scientists think they may have

Independent Board of Film Control. Geneticists think they may have isolated the gene which causes the urge to alter things genetically.

Richard Branson's attempt to drive first train round the world comes to grief when the 17.32 from **Euston to Birmingham New Street** sinks in the Bering Straits.

Hottest August on record. Solar eclipse blamed.

September Scientists think they have found a cure for laddishness. After Clinton is forced to resign

in disgrace as US President, his ratings hit an all-time high. Tony Blair starts second month of his holiday in Tuscany. Scientists claim to have grown

a buman hand on the Millennium After initial success, Andreas Whittam Smith's Independent Film Board hits trouble and is taken over by Mirror Newspapers.

Outbreak of new football season. League champions lose opening fixture. Manager says: "These are

England struggle in Seventh



**MILES** KINGTON

Bill Clinton is found guilty of perjury, embezzlement and criminal snogging

early days. We can still pick ourselves up off the floor. There were a lot of players out there today not per cent commitment. This has been a recorded interview. That will be £250, please."

September is the most average month on record. Global mediocrity blamed.

October First Christmas decorations spot-

and in Oxford Street. President Al Gore fails to make mark as new president, as everyone is still obeying ousted ex-president Clinton, who draws enormous crowds everywhere.

As Tony Blair starts the third nonth of his Tuscan holiday, it turns out he has been trying to get home for six weeks, but has no euros to pay his fare.

Millennium Bug escapes from laboratory, starts cloning itself and

giving their all. I shall demand 100 terrorising the countryside. Scientists think it may have contracted Mad Bug Disease.

Darkness, dampness, dankness and despondency. Global pessimism hlamed.

#### November

Massive last-minute rush for millennium holidays in Jewish, Bud-

dhist, Muslim and other countries which don't use Christian calendar. Disco disaster in East London. All music systems fail in popular club and crowds run arnok. A coded

call from the Millennium Bug claims responsibility. England struggle in 19th Test. Irish money rescues Indepen-

dent Film Board. First scheduled London-to-Midlands balloon service disrupted by adverse winds. Richard Branson

promises to get everyone home from Paris by Christmas. Chilly November Global chilliness hlamed

December

Bill Gates in face-to-face talks with Millennium Bug. He comes back claiming victory but speaking oddly. Experts think he now has the Millennium Bug in his system.

Ex-President Clinton seizes power in USA and calls for fresh elections, claiming that he is free to stand again as he never com-

pleted his second term. General Pinochet disappears mysteriously. Experts say that this

is poetic justice. At midnight on 31 December 1999 everything collapses in chaos except Virgin Trains, which start running smoothly on time.

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### Not much honour in a gong fashioned for another age

THE NEW Year's honours list is a hardy perennial. Every year it brings forth the same sparse crop of civil servants and "the great and the good", accompanied by a sprinkling of entertainers and sports personalities.

Many of the individuals honoured have indeed done "good works", as well as entertained us. Only a very few hard-hearted citizens will hegrudge honouring the acting of Nigel Hawthorn, awarded a knighthood; Lenny Henry, now CBE, has worked hard for Comic Relief as well as making millions laugh. Sporting achievement, whether of the cricketer Angus Fraser or the heptathlete Denise Lewis, is also recognised.

But that very lack of controversy marks the flaw in this system. We all recognise the achievements of such people: they are feted in the press, and hy the public, at the appropriate time of their success. The adulation of crowds and audiences is their life blood, and no amount of official approval makes any difference. The public know greatness when they see it: they do not require prompting to acknowledge it.

It is often those who have passed their hest, whose dangerous satirical and artistic edge has been blunted and who have heen absorbed into the Establishment, who are honoured. It will be do them little good. Those same satirists have done much to create a meritocratic society, in which many of those honoured have stopped using the letters after their name in everyday life: they are aware of how pompous they would seem if they did.

It is the same with politicians, even though the hope of peace in Northern Ireland has prompted many of the awards. There is again no question that the men and women involved in the peace process have shown political bravery, stamina and commitment. Two men from the New World, in particular, came to the aid of the Old: General John de Chastelain and Senator George Mitchell, chairmen of the talks that led to the Good Friday agreement. They gave up their time and energies entirely voluntarily, and deserve our thanks. But they already had our gratitude before they had letters after their names.

"Ordinary people" - nurses, midwives, policemen - are also recognised today. The honours system, as reformed hy John Major when he was prime minister, has made strides in this direction. But New Labour's failure to change it radically is a sign that the whole idea has become obsolete. The mantra of "modernisation", repeated so often, does not seem to extend to this list, grey and uninspiring beyond the facade of celebrity.

There are exceptions. John Major deserves an important share of the praise that has been raining down on Tony Blair, David Trimble and John Hume. He took the risk, with little encouragement from many in his own party,



of engaging with republicans and nationalists. It was his talks process that eventually succeeded. France and the US have the Légion d'honneur and the Congressional Medal of Honour for people who rise so far above what is expected of them. If we reserved honours for such outstanding examples, they would mean more.

Such a system would end the bore of bestowing honours on civil servants. Even though their automatic right to such recognition has been abolished, such a practice has no place in a society no longer willing to accept that the man in Whitehall knows best. In no other field is professional advancement further rewarded with the recognition of the state: wby should civil servants be different?

Very few people appear to think this list means anything beyond anachronism, designed as it was for an age when the Court stood at the apex of a rigid social order. When the Government kicks away one of the props of that social order, the bereditary House of Lords, it would do well to reshape the honours system as well,

### Can it be right to risk your life for sport?

DISASTER IN the pursuit of sporting success prompts an obvious question: why do people take such risks? The loss of Glyn Charles in the Sydney-to-Hobart yacht race and the death of climbers in the Scottish mountains have comhined to bring this question to the fore, for such tragedies are not uncommon. Sportsmen and women are injured all the time, even after their careers have come to a close: the American sprinter Florence Griffiths-Joiner paid the

ultimate price for her peak fitness just months ago. If is, of course, the case that all sports should be conducted with the maximum concern for the wellbeing of the participants. Meteorologists had warned of stormforce winds when the yachts left Sydney. The avalanche warning in the Scottish Highlands had reached three on a scale of one-to-five before the trainee climbers were taken up ahove the snow-line. Questions will have to be asked as to whether every precaution was taken.

But, cosseted in our comfortable lives, we recoil from the idea of danger rather more instinctively than logical inquiry suggests. We should remember the dangers we take every day. Thousands of people die on British roads every year. The very act of driving, cycling, or taking the train to work is far more likely to be deadly than the sports we perceive as "dangerous".

And we cannot ignore the fact that some people enjoy danger, and only feel alive when they can sense the peril they are in. Quality of life can supplant length of life for many. We should celebrate such people, and their hrave lives which make our existence all the richer, rather than refuse to understand them. In many fields true greatness, sporting or otherwise, can only be attained under the threat of danger: such people have every right to take risks with their own hodies - and their own lives.

# Bands gotta split, politicians gotta plot – can anyone tell me why?

N MONDAY, idly flicking on to Ceefax, was alarmed to discover that Boyone - the all-male singing and pecral-display band - were thinking of plitting up. Alarmed, because this vould constitute irrational and selfdestructive behaviour. Only one member of Boyzone - the blond, soft-eyed Ronan Keating - has any individual profile whatsoever, the rest are just abs on legs. As long as they stick together they are - for the moment chart-toppers (or whatever you call it these days). Otherwise - ta-ta.

Contact the state of the state lines such as "Jailed immigrant faces deportment" (Ah; the old book on the head routine, I presume) and "Dutch drugs horde seized" (What? Including their horses?), I no longer quite believe everything I read on television. But there was something about the story that rang true. It's a matter of raging ego; bands gotta split - no matter how silly this may seem. And politicians gotta plot, even if there isn't much to plot about.

So, as the Prime Minister's New Year message of tough times ahead, wafted to us on the soft Indian Ocean hreezes from the Seychelles, some of his compagues (or their minions) were letting it be known that the days of Tone Alone were numbered, and that they were very much going to be listened to in 1999, thank you very much. Variously, there would be curbs on spinning, less lovey-dovey stuff with the Lib Dems and - most important of all - a return to more "traditional Labour values", as backbencher Andrew Mackinlay put it in this newsbe Jack Straw, David Blunkett, Gordon Brown and John Prescott.

On the day that Peter Mandelson and Geoffrey Rohinson did their double-resignation act, all of us pundits queued up to say how the Government had been damaged, without really specifying what that damage was. It was possible that key middleclass voters would become suddenly disillusioned with Labour, and return to the Tory fold. But what we rather sensed was that the Mandelson departure would knock some of the stuffing out of Blair, and diminish the leader's authority among his barons. Simultaneously nervous and emboldened, they might begin to bite on their harnesses. They are, after all, grand men and women now.

It seems odd today - after a decade of Tory infighting and of Kinnockian discipline - to recall that Labour was traditionally the party of mutual loathing. The Left has always draped its personal feuds and competing ambitions in the scarlet veil of ideological and political difference. The old joke about the two Trotskyist sects, who meet for a Unity conference and split into six, was substantially true. Certainly, whenever I feel sad I turn to the websites dealing with the catastrophic implosion of Arthur Scargill's Socialist Labour Party, and all my problems fall into perspective. Another reminder is Ken Livingstone's exuberant and constant disloyalty to his party leadership, which - happily - adorns this newspaper week after week.



#### DAVID **AARONOVITCH**

Tony Blair is not a tribalist. That is what distinguishes him from so many of his Labour colleagues

The trouble is that there is precious little ground for the kind of political division that we have seen in the past. Not much veil, if you like. The economic programme of the Government, for instance, is Gordon Brown's. He is the one who has balanced the demands of prudence and enhanced expenditure on social programmes. So when there is talk of a return to Keynsianism, does that imply a revolt by the Chancellor against his own policies, or merely a way of dressing up

existing and agreed priorities? Is there somewhere a taste within the Cabinet for other old Labour verities, such as a massive extension of public ownership? I thought not. Or how about a redistribution of national wealth using, principally, income tax? Most of the putative plotters are probably happier with the Brown method modernise the state and to devolve denied rumours of a split.

of stealthily taxing the middle classes decisions, desires government to be in ways that they do not notice, nor more open and more ethical, that beattempt to avoid. The cause of egalitarianism is best served, they would all agree, through vast improvements in education and training. I hear few influential voices raised against Dobson's NHS, Straw's Home Office, devolution. House of Lords reform, the Good Friday Agreement or any of the substantial policies of the Govern-ment. Or indeed, even the presentation of those policies.

Which leaves us with those other. more atavishe, anxiebes concerning changes to the voting system and the realignment of British politics. One of the themes of the last part of 1998 has been a desperate attempt to discover an ideology to explain today's world, and to help mobilise different armies for its change. Intellectuals such as Will Hutton have called for a more overtly social-democratic and interventionist stance, while equally clever people, such as Michael Ignatieff, have espoused a contrary liberalism. Between them they have embarked upon an attempt to persuade us that we can be one thing or the other - hut

not both. Neither of them convinces me. I am not at all sure, were you to put them in separate small rooms and invite them each to write an election manifesto in human-being language, that you would be able to tell which was which. The truth, I think, is that, for the left-of-centre there is no catch-all ideology on offer. What we have instead is a pick'n'mix progressivism. which broadly agrees on the need to

more open and more ethical, that believes an objective of government policy should be to ensure that citizens do not get left behind, that abhors discrimination and that believes that human beings are social animals. Now, this is not a "position", it is a continuum, along which many of us are to be found (though we may shift along it from time to time). The "Third Way" is simply an attempt to

find a name for this continuum. This is bad news for those who prefer the security of a tribe. There are many in politics who are natural joiners, part of whose self-definition comes in being able to say who they are not: that they are with the lot who put bones through their noses, and that they are against the rabble from the next valley who wear penisgourds. Never mind that they all worship the same gods and eat the same monkeys.

Tony Blair is not a tribalist. That is what distinguishes him from so many of his Labour colleagues. He does not believe in the mystical superiority of his team over the other lot, and I think that is why he now leans, intellectually, towards electoral reform. It is also what the voters (quite rightly) like about him. Never mind all the grinding and hip-thrusting of the others, Tony Blair is to Labour what the winsome Ronan Keating is to Boyzone. And insofar as what the other band members have to offer is different to what Ronan has, the fans don't want it. Which is why consulting Ceefax just now, I see that Boyzone have just

#### QUOTE OF THE DAY

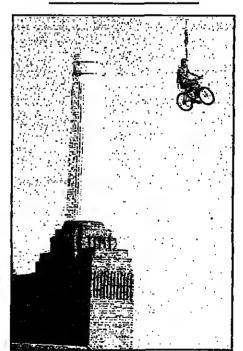
"The sea has such extraordinary moods that sometimes you feel this is the only sort of life and 10 minutes later you're praying for death."

The Duke of Edinburgh

#### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"Never mistake motion for action." Ernest Hemingway, American novelist

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Bungee Jump by Kalpesh Lathigra Ref 00110

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IN MELBOURNE, some were IS CHOKING within sight of hailing England's triumph as a victory a peculiarly Australian miracle. That seems to us still to start in Sydney this weekend, England could yet draw the series and return with their heads held high. We will be excepting our fingers crossed, and in the meanwhile we salute them. The Daily Telegraph, UK

weakness, as many people something of a slight on the have suggested since Australia magnificent performance of again fell short of a modest the Kent fast howler Dean fourth-innings target on Tues-Headley. With the fifth Test day? The issue is a sensitive one, for it reflects not on the Australians' skill, hut on personal qualities such as resoluteness, competitiveness and the ability to keep one's nerve in a tight situation. Sydney Morning Herald,

### **MONITOR**

ALL THE NEWS OF THE WORLD British and Australian comment on the English team's Test victory

THE AUSSIES self-destructed the best side in the world can with the professional stupidity crumble when under the ham-England have displayed all winter. But they did so because England applied pressure, pressure, pressure. Even The Sun, UK

mer. What a shame England have squeezed the enemy only when it is almost too late.

play with such spirit did the often the players will savour the heart a power of good. Some moment that they turned the said the Ashes were no longer worth the fuss. England made transformation from no-hopers a nonsense of such notions to national heroes. We may with this forthright display. Sydney had seemed to be a damp squib. But the series resumes with a revived touring party determined to square the account. It should be another cracking contest between these ancient rivals. The Age, Australia

tables. They will wallow in their continue to ruminate in melancholy terms about the state of English cricket. For the moment it should be enough to congratulate them on their win and thank them them for providing a little piece of August in late December.

The Times, UK

TO SEE this beleaguered team Having heen dismissed so

### **RIGHT** OF REPLY

ANN ROBINSON



The director general of the British Retail Consortium defends the retail industry

I AM fed up with the charge that retailers in Britain are taking consumers for a ride.

The retail industry is highly competitive and there is no trace of complacency within it. Over the last 10 years the price of goods in shops has fallen in real terms by 13 per cent. In the last year alone, the price of 200 of the most commonly bought goods fell by nearly 1 per cent.

I challenge other industries to match this performance, which has only been achieved hy driving down costs and becoming one of the most efficient sectors in the UK. On what basis can it be claimed that there is overcharging when return on capital employed stands at only 6.9 per cent for retailing, compared with 13.6 per cent for wholesaling and 14.3 per cent for all other services?

The strength of the retail industry and one of the key drivers of its excellence has always heen competition. If this is increased as a result of the euro or the growth of Internet shopping, it will be seen by the industry as an additional opportunity and not as a threat

A hasket of goods bought abroad compared to the same basket bought in the UK is often used as evidence hy those who argue British retailers overcharge, hut whether the comparison is favourable often depends on the choice of products.

There are also a number of key trading differences betweeo countries which expose the bogus nature of many basket-based comparisons. These include obvious factors such as the exchange rate and less understood issues such as the cost of investment in retailing in the UK.

The range and quality of products on offer in the UK has grown significantly over the last 10 years from around 15,000 products available in the large supermarkets to more than 25,000 today. In a recent Mori survey, 78 per cent of consumers said they were satisfied with the quality of goods offered and 88 per cent expressed satisfaction with the range available to them.

It is true that we have intelligent and discerning consumers in the UK and their high level of satisfaction only serves to demonstrate that retailing in this country is first class.

# A Muslim Yule shows New Britain at its best

THANK YOU for your cards and good wishes and the delicate way some of you asked if people like me celebrated Christmas. The answer is yes, and with genuine pleasure although, inevitably, there are complications mostly inside our hearts and heads about whether this means the end of our civilisations.

As one of my many wise aunties (all older women in the community are aunlies with an absolute right to advise, bully and instruct you) puts it: "The question is whether we are afraid of dissolving like sugar in their pot of tea or whether we are proud that we are making their tea all the sweeter."

This year was affected by the situation in Iraq and by Ramadhan but. nevertheless, around the country British Asians were seen to be doing Christmas in some style and in ways that would have been unimaginable even five years ago. They do so because they are much more confident of their presence and identity than they were then.

It is an expression not of assimilation - which we would reject as cultural suicide - hut of a new kind of pluralistic society, where it



#### **YASMIN** ALIBHAI-BROWN

Christmas was not a day in 'Hello!', but it was happy, funny, and unpredictably affirming

is no longer necessary to huffet yourself against the cross winds of cultural influence. You know who you are and you believe this to be your nation.

As Nehru said: "I am an internationalist because I am so rooted in India." Once, if you participated in Christmas, you felt like you had stolen someone else's clothes. It was embarrassing and

alienating. You also felt that you were shedding your authentic self.

Even now there are some aspects of the festival that cause discomfort. but we are able to pick and choose what feels right against our skins. Trees in the home and vastly expensive presents (thank God) are still a rarity, and most of us cannot quite grapple with Father Christmas and his role in the birth of Christ. On the other hand, we love our children in the Nativity plays and long for the day when they will be the angels and not the donkeys and sheep.

But this is not only about us and how we are managing the changes that migration brings. What happens at Christmas is a reflection of a far more fundamental evolution within

British society. Just take our family. We did have tree with lots of lovely golden cherubs (my husband is an exchoirboy after all) plus huge hutterflies, eagles and doves. This first confused, then amused, Vera, my mother-in-law from Shoreham, who had met one black person in her life before I turned up, a Muslim divorcee with a young son.

I wore a sari, mainly to reassure

myself that I was maintaining my eastern credentials. My mother Jena came and conspicuously prayed with her tasbi ( prayer beads) through the day. Her English

is somewhat limited by the fact

that she taught herself the lan-

guage by watching soap operas and Crimewatch, and reading Woman's Own. The two women hugged a lot and spoke viciously about thieves and asylum seekers. Vera is hard of hearmg though she denies this, so during our conversations, when I failed to understand her strange replies,

she repeated her sentences to me very slowly as if I was a deaf Croat. Colin, my husband, teased Jena hy telling her he had stuffed the turkey with pork. She told him eating "pig meat" would make him heartless. We paid for Vera to come. to us by taxi. She was overwhelmed and told us stories about the pover-

ty she had grown up in. Her gratitude was unexpected and I informed her that as the mother-in-law of an Asian woman she could demand a whole lot more and even slap me around if I irritated her. She seemed very troubled

by this. Then there was the Canadian, married to my cousin, who is our daughter's godmother, and my son, now studying in Edinburgh, who is becoming an ardent Scotsman. It was not a day in Hello!, but it was happy, funny, fraught too, and unpredictably affirming.

I wish these changes were better understood by the ignoramus commentators who use this time of the year to decry multiculturalism, because their precious children are heard singing songs from foreign parts or the lights in the streets of Birmingham are too secular (unlike the lights in Regent Street, which feature the new Christian God Tango) or because in their eyes it is our presence that is killing off Christianity. They rail against these things because, unlike us, they are now in a state of panic about who

rity and perfection. Devolution is likely to heighten this insecurity. But New Britain already exists. It is a country where de facto integration has surpassed our understanding of it. This is what I found when I was research-

they are and are desperate not to let

go of the false images of cultural pu-

ing my forthcoming hook on mulhculturalism (to be published by the Institute of Public Policy Research). Social and racial fissures do of course still exist and blight lives, but the story is much more positive than either cultural pedants or adamant ant-racists want to helieve.

Political leaders must develop a different narrative about pluralism so that people are able to respond with pride rather than prejudice to what has been achieved. Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, seems to be leading the way. A month ago, he made a powerful statement: "There are those who would retreat from an expansive idea of Britishness into a constricted shell of right-wing English nationalism. My vision of Britain comes not from uniformity but from celebrating diversity. I understand Britishness as being outward-looking, open, internationalist, with a commitment to democracy."

This understanding is already being lived out in Britain by its newest immigrant communities. Perhaps in time their way of living can serve as a model for others.

Have a Happy Multicultural

# Declare for the euro now, Mr Blair. But, above all, stop the dithering

THE SCALE of the undertaking is hreathtaking and its consequences are radical. Tomorrow, a new currency, the euro, will be born: the deutschmark, French franc and nine other national currencies become regional sub-units of the euro. In three years, they will be abolished. In the interim, the euro will quickly emerge as the principal medium of husiness and governmental transactions in Europe, and as a major reserve curreocy and denominator of world trade.

Starting this January, there will be a single monetary policy, with a common interest rate, for the largest integrated economic grouping in the Western world: the euro-zone of some 300 million consumers. Economic and monetary union (Emu) is quite simply the most ambilious European initiative to be launched since the Second World War.

Sitting on the sidelines, from the illusory comfort of self-imposed exile, there is a tendency in Britain to believe that we can simply wait upon events with equanimity, and judge the success or failure of the single currency in our own time and on our own terms. If only it were so.

In reality, Britain's whole relationship to Europe, and with it our place in the world, is about to change. The single-currency eurozone, five times the size of the British economy and right on our own doorstep, will have subsumed our largest trading market. Outside looking in, we will have to react to an economic order in which others are calling the shots, and from whose key decisions we have chosen

to exclude ourselves. This situation will intensify as Emu widens and deepens: within a decade the euro-zone could comprise 20-plus states. More and more issues will be settled without our



#### **GEOFFREY** HOWE

The euro will quickly emerge as a major reserve currency and world trade denominator

we spend outside, the more difficult we may find it to get in. Another era of agonising reappraisal for Britain - and all too easily one of anguished indecision - is about to begin.

What should we do? First of all. we should wish Emu to succeed, and plan on it doing so. This project is too important for continental leaders to allow it to fail; their commitment to it is enormous and impressive. And second, as a country, we should consciously decide to decide - that is resolve to - sooner rather than later, make a choice for or against membership of the single currency. We should not let the national debate drag on indefinitely, without conclusion.

Most importantly, the Government should, I believe, commit itself to Britain joining Emu, not just in principle, but in practice. Its policy of "if" should become one of "when' and be backed by economic policies designed to maximise the chances of entry. The Government should tions for Emu membership, so that.

if the referendum is positive, we can enter soon after the people choose. To move ahead on this agenda,

Tony Blair and his colleagues have got to start taking some risks. Britain will not join Emu by accident. Sometimes this Government looks like a football team passing the ball around the pitch, in the hope that eventually it will just end up in goal. But at some point, somebody has to shoot for goal.

The best route open to Mr Blair is to set a target date for UK entry. perhaps January 2003, and say that, provided the economics are right, he intends to put the question to the people very soon after the next general election. In preparation for entry, the Government should make it plain that domestic economic polihave not helped define. The longer cy will be tailored to promoting the necessary degree of cyclical convergence with the euro-zone. In parallel, it should introduce, in this parliament, a "paving" Bill designed to remove legal and other obstacles to membership and use of the euro. As a result, the Government would have established a clear policy; husiness would have a specific planning horizon, and the electorate would be offered a serious choice.

> At the moment, the opposite approach is being pursued. Mr Blair seems to be hoping that political ambiguity will allow him complete freedom in choosing the entry date; that cyclical convergence will happen of its own accord; that business preparations will lead to official ones, and that public opinion will come around to the single currency without the Government risking much political capital on the project. Not so.

> The Government has to face the fact that critics will be seeking to highlight every economic problem on the Continent, however minor, as an



Jacques Santer (right) and European Monetary Affairs Commissioner Yves-Thibault de Silgny display a model euro coin for the currency's unveiling in May

ceotly on tax harmonisation - and create hogeymen with ambitions to subvert a thousand years of our island's history. Countering this onpriority for the Treasury and for Number Ten.

Equally however, with every day thal passes, the immensity of the new economic reality in Europe can and should become more apparent, and with it the opportunities for Britain of positive participation. The eurosceptic ideology of national isolation will seem increasingly at odds with the new economic and political inter-dependence, generated by market liberalism, which lies at the heart of British success in the world today. This is a battle of ideas

which can be won. If Labour's leaders think they can make serious, practical prepara- inherent consequence of Emu. They avoid Emu being a key issue at the will manufacture or exaggerate next general election, they are mis-

ground now for a strong, robust defence of their euro-policy in 2001 or 2002. If they decline to answer the important questions when the elecslaught will need to be a major hion comes, then entry in the next parliament will prove difficult.

Worse, equivocation could slip into a temptation effectively to rule out Emu entry in the next parliament in order to close off euroscephic attack. The game would then be lost. Ministers' panicky responses in October 1997 to self-generated media leaks on the date of Emu entry provide a salutary warning of how things can go wrong when decisionmakers lose their strategic compass.

Overall, the greatest risk to UK entry into the single currency lies. not in the constraint of public opinion, hut in the absence so far of sustained pro-Emu leadership from the Government. Evasion, inertia or indecision are no substitutes for in-

threats far beyond reality - as so re- taken. They must prepare the forming, educating and persuading the electorate about the strong merits of the single-currency case. The introduction of the euro in 11 countries, starting tomorrow, offers a perfect moment to hegin that process.

As Kenneth Clarke, Michael Heseltine, myself and others have place clear, pro-European Conservatives will back the Prime Minister in promoting the right policies for Britain - hut it is only he and his Government that can give the lead.

The advent of Emu is an opportunity for Mr Blair to demonstrate such leadership. His New Year's resolution should be to act boldly in the national interest. He could well be surprised by the strength of the

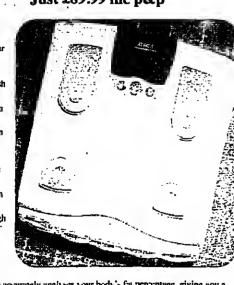
Lord Howe of Aberavon was Chancellor of the Exchequer 1979-83: Foreign Secretary 1983-89, and Deputy Prime Minister 1989-90

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# **PANDORA**

SUGGESTED NEW Year's resolutions for Tony Blair continue to arrive in Pandora's hulging hox as the year draws to a close. (Remember: the deadline is today at noon, in time to forward all, via Downing Street, to the Blair family holiday encampment in the Indian Ocean. The best resolution wins a bottle of invigorating Orkney Islands malt.) "He should resolve to stop sucking up to Bill Clinton," proposes Peter Larg, a retired under these soldier from Bampton, Devon. Somewhat elliphically, former Tory chancellor Norman Lamont told Pandora that Blair "ought to resolve to apply to himself the same standards he seeks to apply to others". Bernard Ingham, Margaret Thatcher's former Downing Street press spokesman. has two highly specific recommendations: "Be infinitely less pious than he is now, and move the Government away from band Cream their ridiculous pre-occupation return to the with the media, which will do them

RICHARD BRANSON'S diary of his recent attempt to circumnavigate the globe in a balloon has been widely

a great deal of damage in the long

run." More to come later in this

column.

excerpted - with one exception. That is the sign-off to his plea to Libyan strongman Colonel Gaddafi, who had first granted permission to cross Libyan territory, and then rescinded it in mid-flight. "Because of this emergency condition, we simply do not know how to avoid crossing your airspace. We hope that you will grant us emergency permission circumstances via your air

traffic control services," wrote a desperate Branson. The tycoon ended his missive most endearingly: "I am sir yonr most obedient servant."

ERIC CLAPTON'S seminal Sixties spotlight in Disraeli Gears, a new history of the band. Author John Platt explains that "supergroup" Cream, whose performing life was comparatively short, almost separated hefore they began

because of the animosity between drummer Ginger Baker and bassist Jack Bruce. It seems that Baker had already fired Bruce from a band hefore the birth of Cream. At the height of the tension between the two musicians. reports Platt, Ginger even

threatened Bruce on stage with a knife. Nevertheless, Clapton insisted that Bruce, a fellow member of John Mayall's Blueshreakers, join the new group, ensuring that plenty of "creative tension" would produce exceptional music

NO LESS than five suggested Blair New Year's resolutions have arrived from vociferous gay rights campaigner Peter Tatchell: "to get a decent haircut; rediscover socialism: appoint Mandelson ambassador for life to Kazakhstan: give John Prescott the power and resources to implement an integrated public transport policy; abolish all forms of discrimination based on age/religion/ sexuality and HIV status". A more measured but

equally topical resolution offered by MP Norman Baker, the Lib Dem transport spokesman: "to find out what the word 'environment' means". Labour MP Paul Flynn, on the other hand, nrges Blair to "stop taking the tabloids next year". Finally, independent publisher and author Jay Landesman suggests that Blair's resolution should be "to convince Peter Lilley to crosa the floor, join the Cabinet and take Mandelson's place at his right hand. Above all, Tony should resist the urge to resign."

JULIET STEVENSON (pictured) is to star in a National Theatre production of Noël Coward's Private Lives next year, Pandora can reveal for the first time. A previous attempt to stage the play with Figua Shaw in the lead was abandoned; Shaw went on to star in the National's adaptation of Muriel Spark's The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie. The key question is who will play the male lead in Coward's play. It was this problem that scuppered the National's last attempt. The role demands an exceptional actor aged about 40. Pandora's source says all the chief British candidates are too husy earning millions in Hollywood.

احكذا من الاجل

# Hurd Hatfield

THE ACTOR Hurd Hatfield will some experience," said Hatfield always be associated with the film role that made him a star, that of the aesthetic young man who remains youthful through the years while a portrait of himself in the attic displays the aberrations of his life. in MGM's film version of Oscar Wilde's novel The Picture of Dorian Gray.

He would later say, however, that the role was a curse as well as a hlessing, for within five years he was appearing in B movies, and throughout the rest of his life he would he associated with that single role, despite a long and varied career in film, television and particularly theatre. "I have been haunted by The Picture of Doriun Gray," tie said. "New York, London, anywhere I'm making a personal appearance, penple will talk about other things but they always get back to Dorian Gray." Coincidentally, until recently Hatfield's appearance remained remarkably youthful, and he became accustorned to being asked if he kept a painting of himself in his attie.

He was born William Rukard Hurd Hatfield in New York City in 1918. He won a scholarship to study acting at Michael Chekhov's Dartington Hall company in Devon. England, and made his professional début in the spring of 1939 playing the Baron in scenes from The Lower Depths at the company's theatre. Returning to the United States with Chekhov's company, he toured as Sir Andrew Aguecheek in Twelfth Night, Caleh Plummer in Cricket on the Hearth, and Gloucester in King Lear, before making his Broadway debut as Kirilov in The Possessed (1939).

Comment of the second

This adaptation of several Dostoevsky works into one somhre 15-scene play ran for only 14 performances, with both the acting and Chekhov's direction deemed excessively stylised. While the company was playing on the West Coast Hatfield was signed by MGM and cast as Lao San in the studio's 1944 adaptation of Pearl Buck's epic novel Dragon Seed, about the effect of Japanese invasion on a family of Chinese farmers. "That was

later. "A nightmare! Walter Huston was my father, Katharine Hephurn my sister. Aline MacMahon from New York my mother, Turkish Turhan Bey my brother, Russian Akim Tamiroff my uncle - it was a very odd Chinese family!"

Hatfield then auditioned for the role of vain young sensualist who trades his soul for eternal youth in The Picture of Dorian Gray (1945). "Oscar Wilde's original Dorian is blond and blue-eyed," he said later. "and here I was, this gloomy-looking creature. I almost didn't go to the audition, and when I did, all these blond Adonises were to the right and left of me. I looked like one of their agents!"

The director Albert Lewin had just written and directed a successful transcription of Somerset Maugham's The Moon and Sirpence, and he was given a large budget to make an opulent and literate version of Wilde's novel, though critics objected to the many liberties that were taken with the story. The strict censorship of the time worked in some extent in the film's favour, making the suggestions of corrup-

Hatfield's enigmatic, passive performance was given a mixed recephon (one critic described his lack of facial animation to that of an actress playing Trilby while under the hypnotic spell of Svengali). Variety reported, "He plays it with little feeling, as apparently intended, and does it well . . . the's singularly Narcissistic all the way." The majority felt that the actor's immobile features and flat tones suggested the mixture of beauty and depravity called for, but although the film was a great success it failed to ignite Hatfield's film career. "The film didn't make me popular in Hollywood," he commented later. "It was too odd, too avant-garde, too ahead of its time. The decadence, the hints of hisexuality and so on, made me a leper! Nobody knew I had a sense of hu-

mour, and people wouldn't even have lunch with me." His next film was an independent production, the off-beat Diary of n Chambermaid (1946), adapted by Burgess Meredith from Octave Mirbeau's 1900 novel Le Journal d'une femme de chambre and directed by Jean Renoir, who was a great ad-

Dorian Gray didn't make me popular in Hollywood. It was too odd, too avant-garde, too ahead of its time

tion and decadence all the more telling for heing oblique.

Harry Stradling's photography, which blazed into colour from blackand-white when it showed the ageing, increasingly dissolute portrait (by Ivan Albright), won an Academy Award, George Sanders was ideally cast as the cynical misogynist Lord Henry Wotton and Angela Lanshury won an Oscar nomination for her portrayal of Sybil Vane, the music-half singer whose plaintive rendition of "Little Yellow Bird" wins Gray's heart before he is persuaded by Wotton to jilt ber cruelly.

mirer of Paulette Goddard, Meredith's wife and the star of the film. In this strongly cast production, Hatfield held his own as the consumptive son of a wealthy landowner who finds strength and redemption through the love of a chambermaid, hut the film, now regarded as a minor classic, was only a succes d'estime at the time of its release, and Hatfield returned to MGM to play a subsidiary role as one of the scientists working on the atom bomb in the studio's semi-documentary of the weapon's development, The Beginning or the End (1947).

He had a better role in Michael Curtiz's eojoyable thriller The Unsuspected (1947), as an artist driven to alcohol by his wife's infidelities. In Walter Wanger's costly hut ponderous Joan of Arc (1948), Hatfield played Father Pasquerel, chaplain to Joan (Ingrid Bergman), but, when this was followed by roles as the villain in two B movies. The Checkered Coat (1950, as a psychotic killer called Creepy) and Chinatown at Midnight (1950), he decided to return to the stage.

In 1952 he appeared on Broadway as Dominic in Christopher Fry's Venus Observed, directed by Laurence Olivier, and the following year played Lord Byron and Don Quixote in Tennessee Williams's Comino Real directed by Elia Kazan. He was Prince Paul in the Broadway production of Anastasia (1954), played the title role in Julius Caesar in the inaugural season of the American Shakespeare Festival at Connecticut, Stratford (1955) and appeared as Don John in John Gielgud's legendary production of Much Ado About Nothing (1959).

He occasionally returned to Hollywood, notably for two sexually amhivalent roles: the epicene follower of Billy the Kid (Paul Newman) in Arthur Penn's film of Gore Vidal's The Left-Handed Gun (1958) and a homosexual antique dealer considered a suspect in The Boston Strangler (1968) - the scene in which he is questioned by a liberal police officer (Henry Fonda) was one of the most potent in the film. He was in two of 1965's epics, King of Kings and El Cid, and in 1986 returned to the screen to play the ailing grandfather of Jessica Lange. Sissy Spacek and Diane Keaton in Crimes of the Heart.

His prolific television work included The Rivols and The Importance of Being Ernest (both 1950), the title roles in The Count of Monte Cristo (1958) and Don Juan in Hell (1960), episodes of Suspense, Alfred Hitchcock Presents and Murder She Wrote, and in 1963 an Emmynominated performance as Rothschild in The Invincible Mr Disroeli.



Hatfield in the title role of The Picture of Dorian Gray, 1945

In recent years be toured Germany. Northern Ireland, Latvia and Russia in The Son of Whistler's Mother, a one-man play about James McNeill Whistler, and in July 1997 he made a personal appearance at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York in connection with an exhibition of paintings by Albright (including Dorian Grayi.

A hachelor, Hurd Hatfield had lived for many years on an estate in Ireland the also owned a house on Long Island), commuting for acting assignments. He recently stated that he had accepted his permanent

even though the film had for him heen "a terrible ordeal in selfcontrol, everything being so cerehral". He added, "But not many actors are fortunate enough to have made a classic. Ooe friend told me it's a good thing I didn't make Dracula and have my entire professional life dominated by that!"

association with the role of Gray.

TOM VALLANCE

William Rukard Hurd Hatfield. actor: born New York 7 December 1918; died Monkstown, Co Cork 25

### **Emilio** Fermín Mignone

EMILIO FERMIN MIGNONE was at once a tower of strength and very tragile. Slightly hunched, he had a quiet sense of humour in the contained fashion of lives tinged with tragedy. He was affable, knowledgeable and consistent in his speech in the style of most veteran lawyers.

Argentina's constitutional present and its dictatorial past held for him a need to understand a political transition that he had accepted. But nobody understood how he had come to terms with it, except through his strong religious belief. He lived and campaigned with his personal tragedy ever present: his daughter was abducted and became one of Argentina's thousands of "disappeared" on 24 May 1976. She was a child psychologist working in a shanty town in the Flores area west of Buenos Aires. Her work was seen as subversive by the military dictator-

ship that seized power that March. The obituaries in Argentina recall him as an institutional man-a civil servant in human rights. He founded the Centre for Legal and Social Studies ("Cels") in 1978, and became one of Argentina's most notable and persistent human rights campaigners. He had begun his protest against the dictatorship shortly after its installation, distributing his criticism to Buenos Aires newsrooms. His daughter had helped him deliver his circulars.

There has to be some significance that he died at the British Hospital in Buenos Aires. As a member of the executive of the Article 19 human rights organisation in the late 1980s he enjoyed his brief visits to London and described it as the one city in the world where he felt at peace.

Mignone began his working life as a lawyer and a teacher. Between 1948 and 1952 he edited his home town newspaper, La Voz de Luján - ironically during the government of Peron, who gagged all the Argentine press from the time he took office in 1946. Mignone, bowever, held a sympathy for Peronism's populist social welfare.

He lived in Washington DC for a time in the mid-1960s, advising on education at the Organisation of American States. In 1968, he became under-secretary for education during the regime of General Juan Carlos Ongania, a small-time despot who is largely responsible for precipilating Argentina into near civil war in the 1970s, but in whom Mignone saw a staunch Roman Catholic and a valid successor to Peronism.

In June 1973, the elected Peronist when he took charge of Nottingham | the national university of Lujan, a job Forest, then struggling near the he held until the coup. During the dicfoot of the First Division - though he | tatorship he was a member of the exremained at the City Ground for ecutive of the Permanent Assembly for Human Rights (APDH) and was happy reign. The club seemed inteot | constantly followed and threatened by military security agents. In 1986 placements proved inadequate and he published his essay "Church and they were relegated in 1971/72. In Oc- | Dictatorship", criticising the Church

> In July 1985, during the trials of the military junta leaders, he told the former dictators: "You took government with a plan to kidnap, torture and murder." The remark shattered the silence in the courtroom, and shook the lingering sense of fear in Buenos Aires. ANDREW GRAHAM-YOOLL

Emilio Fermin Mignone, lawyer and human rights campaigner: born Lujan, Argentina 22 July 1922; married (five daughters): died Buenos Aires 21 December 1998.

### **Matt Gillies**

MATT GILLIES was as seminally important to Leicester City during the 1960s as were his famous fellow Scots Matt Busby and Bill Shankly to

Certainly both held Gillies in immense esteem and believed he had deserved better than his single 1964 League Cup triumph with the unfashionable Foxes, so inspired was his work. Indeed, Gillies transformed Leicester from a club which had yoyoed dizzily between the First and Shalf of the 1950s into one of the elite Second Divisions during the second flight's more solid citizens. Apart from that one troptly suc-

cess, between 1961 and 1967 there were four top-eight League finishes, the first European foray in the club's history, FA Cup Final appearances in 1961 and 1963 and a second League Cup Final outing in 1965. This was a rapturously impressive record.

In personality, Gillies resembled the stately Busty more closely than the abrasively excitable Shankly. Gentlemanly, unassuming and a ly by his assessment of the rookie



A silver-tongued diplomat

silver-tongued diplomat, he rejoiced in the respect of most players, possessing the priceless knack - from Leicester's viewpoint - of deflecting wage demands with pure charm, footballers left his office with smiles trut with little extra in their pockets.

He was a shrewd judge of raw talent, too, a gift illustrated most vividFrank McLintock. After an incon- faith in the unproven Peter Shilton clusive trial, the club was about to promoted him to sell the world's best reject the scrawny, Gorbals-raised teenager, but Gillies saw something Shilton went on to play more League d Mclinto stayed and matured into one of Leicester's most influential performers, going on to star for Arsenal. Gillies was a canny operator in the

transfer market, his most vaunted transaction being the £7,000 acquisition of Gordon Banks, a youthful goalkeeper destined for greatness, from Chesterfield in 1959. There were other bargains, notably the Scottish play-maker Davie Gibson and the winger Mike Stringfellow, but he was not afraid to invest boldly, either, as he proved by paying Fulham a British record £150,000 fee for the marksman Allan Clarke in 1968.

Indeed, Gillies was never less than decisive. For instance, in 1961 he astounded the soccer world by axing his prolific centre-forward. Ken Leek, for the FA Cup Final meeting with mighty Spurs, opting instead to field the inexperienced Hugh McIlmoyle. Six years later his

goalkeeper, Banks, to Stoke City. for England than anyone in the history of the game. Finally, Gillies even left Leicester on a point of principle, resigning after the board had sacked his trusted coach, Bert Johnson, following a lean spell of results which

was to culminate in relegation.

Though Gillies spent his working life in football, in his teens he was bent on a career in medicine. His studies were interrupted by war and he hecame a navigator in RAF Bomber Command, Meanwhile he had emerged as a promising halfback and served Motherwell as an amateur before signing for Bolton Wanderers in 1942. After the conflict he broke into the Trotters' senior side at right half, then became a reliable centre-half and captain before losing out to younger men.

In January 1952 Gillies joined ular stopper in the side that lifted the Second Division Championship in 1954. His playing days drew to a close during the subsequent disappointing First Division campaign and in 1956. iotherapy, be turned to coaching.

Then, when David Halliday vacated the boss's chair in November 1958, Gillies became caretaker manager, accepting the job permanently two months later. Working closely with Bert Johnson, he turned around the fortunes of the struggling First Division outfit, his success based on a formidably sound defence. The team reached its peak in

1962/63 when, for a time, there was a possibility of the hallowed League and FA Cup double, and Leicester were favourites to win the Wembley meeting with Manchester United. The following season brought compensation with a two-legged League Cup Final victory over Stoke, and City came close to retaining the trophy in 1964/65, being beaten by Chelsea in the final after that. Gillies' Foxes Leicester for £9,500 and was the reg-remained splendidly competitive until 1968/69, when a poor start to the

Take a time-trip outside the Dome

missal and the manager's departure. Towards the end of his Filbert Street tenure Gillies had become

season precipitated Johnson's dis-

oearly four years, it proved an unon selling its best players, the retober 1972, with Forest doing poorly | for supporting the military regime. in the Second Division, Gillies resigned. It was a sadly anti-climactic ending to an accomplished career. IVAN PONTING

Matthew Muirhead Gillies, footballer and manager: born Loganlea. West Lothian 12 August 1921: played for Bolton Wanderers 1942-52. Leicester City 1952-56; mannged Leicester City 1958-68, Nottingham Forest 1969-72; married (one son, one daughter); died Nottingham 24 December 1998.

### **GAZETTE**

#### BIRTHS, **MARRIAGES** & DEATHS

#### BIRTHS

CHIDWICK: On Monday 21
December 1998 at Maidstone, to
Sandra and Russell Chidwick, a
daughter, Gabrielle Thamisin, a
little sister for Joshua.

FOX McCLURE: Reubeo River was born on Christmas Eve at University College Hospital, London, to Geoevieve and Richard.

JONES: Martin David, a son for Simon and Karen and a first grandchild for both lan and Christine Hendersoo and Tony and Saily Jones, was born on 12 December 1988 at Simpsoo Meonorial Maternity Pavilion, Edinburgh.

#### CHANGING OF THE GUARD

The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, 11am; 1st Battation The Duke of Wellington's nartanon The Duke of Wellington's Regiment mounts the Queen's Guard, al Bucklugham Palace, 11.30am, band provided by the Welsh Guards.

#### BIRTHDAYS

Mr Dauglas Anthony, former Deputy Prime Minister in Australia, 69; Mr Edward Glanvill Benn, life president, Benn Bros, 93; Mr Phil Blakeway, rugby player, 48; Sir George Blunden, former Deputy Governor, Bank of England, 76; Mr Michael Bonallack, Secretary, Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews, 64; Sir George Christie, chairman, Glyndebourne Productions, 64; Mr Stephen Cleobury, Organist, Cambridge University, 50; Air Marshal Sir Patrick Dunn, 86: Sir Anthony Hopkins, actor, 61; Miss Tess Jaray, artist, 61; Mr Ben Kingsley, actor, 55; Mr Brian McGratten, rugby player, 39; Mr Eric Mackay, former Editor of The Scotsman, 76; Miss Sarah Miles, actress, 55; Dr Valerie Pearl, former President, New Hall, Cambridge, 72; Mr Jean-Pierre Rives, rugby player, 46; Mr Nigel Rudd, chairman, Williams Holdings, 52; Sir John Sainty, former

MP. 44; The Right Rev Timothy Stevens, Bishop Suffragan of Dunwich. 52; Miss Donna Summer, singer, 50; Mr Hugh Tunnell, former ambassador to Bahrain, 63: Sir David Walker, chairman, Morgan Stanley Group, 59.

#### **ANNIVERSARIES**

Births: Charles Edward Stuart, the Young Pretender, 1720; Henri-Emile Benoit Matisse, painter, 1869: Jule Styne (Julius Kerwin Stein), songwriter and composer. 1905. Deaths: John Wycliffe, reformer, 1384; Sir Malcolm Campbell, speedster, 1948; Canon Lewis John Collins, peace campaigner, 1982. On this day: the chimes of Big Ben were broadcast for the first time, 1923; the British army abandoned the use of the lance, 1927; the Home Guard was disbanded, 1945; the farthing ceased to be legal currency, 1960. Today is Hogmanay in Scotland and the Feast Day of St Columba of Sens, St John-Francis Regis, St Melania the Younger and St Silvester L pope.

#### BRACE YOURSELF for the Year of the **MEANINGS OF** Millennium - and for a twelvemonth of intensifying bathle about the

Dome! "Imagine What We Can Do Tomorrow" was the slogan launched To reflect more truly

in the Christmas Eve advert for the £800m project, paid for by the National Lottery. It was a genufiection to the Dome's theme of Time, as were the Easter Island statues which figured prominently in its summary of world history since the last millennium.

It was an unfortunate choice; the Easter Island statues witness to some centuries of genocidal warfare and ecological destruction even before they were "discovered". More than that the rest of the "millennial landmarks", chosen by focus groups, are equally arbitrary or banal.

The Dome has attracted a certain hitchiness; especially sharp is the epithet, adapted from Susan Sontag, "Bad enough to be funny, but not bad enough to be fun". Ouch! But the churches have perhaps been unwise in joining in the grumbling. For it uncannily recalls an earlier Dome Project, in which the Jubilee of 1500 was celebrated with similarly extravagant display. That too was paid for by the gullible, seeking time off from purgatory for cash. Indulgences - an outcome tax rather than an income taxdid for Christendom what the Poll Tax did for Margaret Thatcher. For the 16th-century dome was the new St Peter's in Rome.

Not that Protestants can afford to be smug about that. The Archbishop of York moved on to dangerous ground with his complaint that the Dome is out

## CHRISTMAS

JOHN KENNEDY

on the past millennium, turn your back on Mr Mandelson's extravaganza and study the panorama along the Thames

of keeping with Christian humility, baby Jesus, the manger etc. Well, I love York Minster, but it bears few manger-like features, and not even Peter Mandelson would have aspired to the splendours of the archbishop's official residence.

The problem is this, both Churches and Domers suffer the same propensity to deny the reality of power in history. So let's take an alternative time-trip, starting from the hill in Greenwich above the Dome. Down the hill stands the Queen's House, built by Inigo Jones for James I, the creator of Protestant Britain and perhaps the most theological British monarch. The English Bible rightly bears his name. He memorably engaged in learned dialogue with the Jesuit Henry Garnet, who had been tortured half to death for his alleged role in the Gunpowder Plot. It's rugged stuff, theology, when power is involved.

Looming beside it is the double-

domed perfection of Wren's Royal Naval Hospital. The need for it is plain from the nearby mnnument to General Wolfe, Victor of Quebec; be, Clive and others annexed a quarter of the globe in the mid-18th century, but only from the French, so no harm done. But it was all done under cover of a rather noisy Proteslantism. Yes, Ian Paisley is an historical relic, but he is a genuine one these things once mattered.

But the conflicts of power had moved

away from religion into the arena of economics. Beyond the river is the Isle of Dogs. Once its docks were central to the global wealth of the British Empire. That may have vanished but it is still a symbol of the secular nature of power in contemporary Britain. For standing like an exclamation mark over the new Docklands is the great tower of Canary Wharf. Here is the greatest concentration of the media in Britain, from the mighty Telegraph to the smaller but perfectly formed Independent. Here also are merchant banks and advertising agencies through which pass financial flows which make millions of people richer. and other millions poorer. This, rather than the Dome, is the symbol of our future world. For here, without noise or movement, churns away all that mèlée of ambition and principle. ruthlessness and sympathy, greed and conviction that makes humanity what it is and

It is all much less religious than in previous eras - but not necessarily less moral. In the days when the Churches had real power, they responded to current exigencies no less ruthlessly

which the Dome so smugly masks.

than some tenants of Canary Wharf do now. This needs to be remembered now that the Churches are spectators trying to be referees.

It is in response to that changed reality that the Churches have produced a Millennium Resolution (see below, which has been widely mocked - for it fails to mention either God or that Jesus Christ who is supposedly the object of Millennial attention. But it is realistie to do so. The churches have planned numerous celebrations for the faithful of the 2,000th anniversary of the hirth of Christ. But the Resolution appeals to a universal audience, and gets it about right. It has sharp convictions about shared values. and the right kind of humility in acknowledging that these are not the exclusive property of the Church.

The stark faet is this. The coming Millennium will see a continuing decline in the power of Church-as-Referee, But society will negotiate its own deals with power, and will likely do so no worse than did Christendom, And, if Christians will hold influence rather than enjoy privilege, that is witness enough to their faith. So take your time-trip in Greenwich Park and read the churches' desire for the Millennium against the turbulent panorama below:

Let there be Respect for the earth Peace for its people Love in our lives Delight in the good Porgiveoess for past wroogs And from oow on a new start.

John Kennedy is political affairs secretary of the Methodist Church

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Clerk of the Parliaments, 64;

Mr Alexander Salmond

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# Can we have sex and stay friends?

This week's dilemma: Max, single and 30, has the occasional girlfriend and once wanted to get married but it didn't work out. He now spends lots of time with a single woman friend, who's suggested they have sex - just sex, nothing more. He quite fancies her, but doesn't love her and worries it might destroy the friendship

ome men try to persuade women into bed by telling them they love them, and that sex will add a new dimension to their relationship. Some women persuade men into bed by saying that sex is just nothing, and it a hit screwy." will simply be a pleasurable but mean-

teeth. The men usually want a pleasurable but meaningless experience, and the women want a deeper relationship.

"But don't women these days see sex in a much more take-it-or-leave it way

than they used to?" I asked my son, having been fed this fuck-'em-and-chuck-'em line by a diet of movies, women's magazines and telly sitcoms.

"Not really," he replied. "Of course there is the odd one, hut they're usually Unless this woman is one of the screwy

ones, then, Max will find that including sex Both of them are lying through their in the relationship will change it drastically. How will he be able to take the occasional woman out if he's sleeping with his female friend who will suddenly have changed - literally overnight - into his girlfriend? He'll have gone to bed with a

#### VIRGINIA'S ADVICE

platonic pal, and woken to find her grinning maniacally and saying, though probably not verbally: "Heh, heh, heh, fooled you. Now, when can we move in together, have babies and get married?" - in much the same way as many Don Juans leap out of bed in the morning, laughing their heads off, saying: "Heh, heh, heh, fooled you, don't really love you after all,

Of course having sex with this woman will change the relationship. Of course it

will destroy the friendship. Take an ounce of flour (Max), an ounce of butter (his woman friend), mix together and add boiling milk (sex) and you get a white sauce (a completely new relationship). Just as it is impossible to reverse the process of a white sauce and reduce it to its original ingredients, it is equally unlikely that Max could re-create the friendship he and his friend have now.

Put another way, you can add salt to a dish but you can't take it out. A lover can going to mean he has to reject her, unless

Love may follow friendly sex

assume by love you mean romantic

and wouldn't it be fantastic if this

ecstatic state went on forever. It

One of the pitfalls for many

spectacles. In an ecstatic state one

lover through rose-coloured

rarely does.

magic wears off.

lover is hard to turn into a friend until lots of time has passed.

Now sex may destroy the platonic friendship, but it might lead to something deeper and more permanent. Max may find he's in for a complete surprise when he gets into bed with his friend. Unfortunately, you can never tell until you've tried. She might be so sexy, sensual and loving when she tears her clothes off,

that he becomes completely hooked. But it might be a disaster. If so, wriggling out of sleeping with her again is

be a friend as well as a lover, but an extime charade every time they meet.

Whether he has sex with her or not depends partly on whether he's a gambler. But, at this stage, I think be should probably say no.

There are, after all, more attractive ways to seduce people than to say: "Let's have sex - it won't mean anything, which, even to a man, is surely a fairly bleak and mechanical prospect. Men don't like being used any more than women do. And love usually plays a greater part in their enjoyment of sex than some men would like to admit.

It certainly worked for us I don't usually write to newspapers, but after reading about Max's dilemma it struck such a chord that I felt I had to. I too was in such a predicament (a rather pleasant predicament) in that I was 28, a single man, had been engaged and had a close female friend who wanted more than just a friendship. It was further complicated by her having a six-month-old daughter, Hannah, hy another man long consigned to history.

I dithered for ages as I too didn't feel that I loved her. However, after going away for a few weeks. I missed her greatly and we ended up in hed upon my return. It was certainly awkward afterwards but, because our friendship was so strong, we got over this. I had been reluctant to take this step because I feared getting involved in a relationship that I didn't want. However, our relationship had changed - for the better. Once the "Shall we, shouldn't we?" question had been answered, we relaxed and realised it could work. Love doesn't necessarily come like a flash of lightning, but can grow from friendship (perhaps it is better for that).

We are about to celebrate our second Christmas together and we look on Hannah as our daughter. Therefore, although it may not necessarily work for Max, if he doesn't try it, he'll never know - which is the worst scenario of all. If the friendship is strong, it will survive. Go for it! ROB VAN DER EYKEN Truro, Cornwall

Life isn't a dress rehearsal! I'm terribly impressed that you are now getting messages from beyond the grave, because Γm quite certain that

Max has died and gone to Heaven! There are millions of blokes the world over who, confronted with the possibility of a lavish sex life with no strings attached, would not be dithering and writing to newspapers about it. They'd be into the bath, down to the florists (via the chemist) and presenting themselves on the

appropriate doorstep with a hroad grin. It would seem that Max ought to revise his attitudes towards women. They are not that terrifying. In most relationships, a good

friendship is essential; if it's already

there then he should capitalise on it.

As the philosopher said, life is not a

Seventeen years ago, I took in a

abandoned on a motorwny. Snoopy

was a cat in a million. He was more

day. He would even come along with

Sadly, he had become very ill over

like a dog than a cat, and would

follow me from room to room each

me for short walks in the country.

the last year, and I kept thinking to

have him put to sleep. However, the

myself that it would be kinder to

kitten that had been cruelly

Dear Virginia,

READERS' SUGGESTIONS dress rehearsal. This is it. NICHOLAS DIXEY via e-mail

Don't be used just as a stud This sounds fine in theory, hut warning bells are ringing in my head. Firstly, in my personal experience, I have never known a woman enter into a relationship for reasons of friendship, without finding that she then falls in love and wants more. Secondly - be careful that she hasn't just realised she wants a baby before it's too late, and sees you as just the man to father it, with or without your agreement. INGE CUBITT

#### Brentford, Middlesex

finally I found him stretched out in the hall, having been sick and unable to move or lift his head. He was just skin and bones.

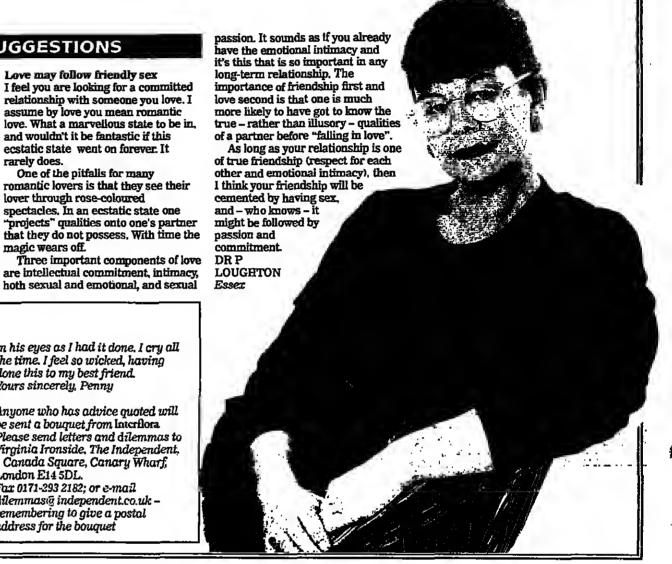
NEXT WEEK'S DILEMMA

I took him back to the veterinary surgery, but this time it was a different vet on duty, and he put him to sleep straight away. Since then I have not been able to sleep for guilt. Should I have had it done earlier? Should I have waited longer till the first vet came back? Should I have just let him die in my own home, Snoopy became iller and iller, and keep remembering the terrible look

in his eyes as I had it done. I cry all the time. I feel so wicked, having done this to my best friend. Yours sincerely, Penny

Anyone who has advice quoted will be sent a bouquet from Interflora Please send letters and dilemmas to Virginia Ironside, The Independent, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL. Fax 0171-293 2182; or e-mail

dilemmas@independent.co.uk = address for the bouquet



# Come the resolutions

Forget about making your own. It's much more fun telling other people what to do. By John Walsh

noying habits was to inform me, each 31 December, what my New Year resolutions should be. In vain would I point out that a resolution is, by its nature, a personal thing - an internal commitment to become a better human being in the future, not a prescription handed down from on high. She would explain that people never knew best about what needed improving in their lives. It takes someone else – some kind friend or relation perhaps - to point out that, if they resolved to eat less garlic or to cease using the word "bizarre" all the time, their life would be better and so would the lives of those around them. Your own commitment to stop drinking 120proof St Lucian rum every morning is all well and good. hut there may be something far more radical in your life that you should adopt or relinquish without delay, and you need an outsider's eye to tell you what it is. So here are some crucial Wife Initiative.







Take my advice: President Clinton, Delia Smith and David Beckham

sign up Max Clifford to sell the

rights to her memoirs, Liz R

New Year resolutions, offered gratis to the people who would most profit from them:

President Clinton must resolve to start having sex. The enormous fuss caused by his not having sex with various women has been more trouble than it's worth. He must try the Horizontal Position, the Taking Your Clothes Off Option and the Sleeping With Your

The Queen must try to he

Peter Mandelsnn must more accessible and democdetermine to go house-hunting somewhere that is more appropriate to his income hrackratie than in 1998. She must go on the National Lottery Draw et than Notting Hill I'm told as a guest hutton-presser (saying "Good luck everyone!" and Catford and Lewisham have some quite nice mezzanine jerking both thumbs aloft), she must join a Saga holiday to Lanflats, which are reasonably zarote, acquire a taste for shisb handy for Greenwich. kebabs on Friday nights and David Beckham and

Victoria Adams must resolve to cut off each other's excessively long and irritating

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Team on

fringes so that each can at last Davies must stay in more. see what the other looks like. George Michael must bring solve to supplement his inout a theme CD of novelty come by becoming Food and songs, including "Gee Officer Krupke", "The Laughing Po-Drink Critic of The Big Issue. liceman" and "Willie and the also explore new career possi-

Hand Jive". hilities, now the internship is a Prince Charles will resolve goner and the memoirs will fail to get to Level 3 of the Play Stato deliver anything new. She tion game Oddworld, with or must resolve to try her luck in advertisements. A chewingwithout the help of his sons. gum commercial would be a

Tony Blair should resolve to become more interested in where his cabinet ministers get the cash to pay for their houses, their yachts, their Ozwald Boateng suits, their private jets, private armies and offshore companies.

Rupert Murdoch's resolution should be (and probably is: to become a Chinese citizen. With any luck, in doing so he will unexpectedly find himself involved in the North Beijing People's Cultural Collective, putting on an amateur production of Little Fong and the Paddy Field Drainage Operative for peasant audiences.

Nicole Kidman must resolve to do lots more theatre in London, in increasingly small and experimental venues, culminating in a one-woman production of Nell Dunn's Steaming in the shed at the end

of my garden. Stephen Byers, the Secreunder the Pacific Ocean - intary of State at the Department visible, and wholly out of conof Trade and Industry, will tact with the terrestrial world resolve that this year, he will - stands at 200 days, I believe. definitely crack the nine times Just a thought.

Will Carling must resolve solve to stop pronouncing to go out with some fat brunettes in the future, given the mess his life has become at noise in his throat. the hands of a dozen identical slender blondes.

Emma Noble must undertake to get herself some underwear this year.

Lord Irvine of Lairg must try to get out more - Ron singing "Millennium".

Paul Gascoigne must re-

Monica Lewinsky must

Delia Smith must take up

smoking. Her new series,

Delin's Spring Surprise,

should feature the great cook with a Marlboro Light dan-

gling from the corner of her

mouth as she demonstrates

how to make boeuf en daube.

The resulting nationwide rush

to off-licences and tobacconists

will be an important counter to

the Government's anti-fags

publicly resolve to be nicer

to people in future, especially

UN inspectors, or we will

carpet-bomb his subjects' hous-

solve to try for some other

world record besides that of

hot-air ballooning. The record

for the longest period spent

submerged in a bathyscape

Geoffrey Boycott must re-

"cricket" as "k'ikit", and mak-

ing that extraordinary clicking

Rohbie Williams must

make a firm undertaking never

ever sgain to wear the see-

through, frock-and-directoire-

knickers outfit he wore on Top

of the Pops last year while

Richard Branson must re-

Saddam Hussein must

good start.

ILLUSTRATION BY ANDREW BIRCH Although aircraft are unlikely in plummet from the

skies, the Millennium Bug may well lose our airline baggage in a time warp. In recent tests, BAA found that when the elock was set to 1.1.00, its baggage-handling system sent luggage down the 'mis-sort' chute



The toothpaste and your towel Your calculator, laptop and your socks Surrendered at the airport Are lost somewhere in time Millennial gremlins sabotaged the clocks And through the whirling vortex Suitcases disappear As down the time continuum they spin The baggage handlers, helpless Apologise at length And swear to God they put the objects in The highwaymen of Hounslow Found luggage on the heath Two hundred years before the airport came The credit cards were useless Pyjamas thrown away But duty-free Jack Daniels worked the same The coachmen and postillions Along the Western Road Once puzzled by the objects on the ground Unpacked the foreign Walkmans Then drove to Drum 'n' Bass In tracksuits and the baseball caps they found A hurrified historian Presents to a museum Possessions pipelayers found beneath a floor The Restoration trainers Some Georgian shaving foam Deodorant from the English Civil War And down the sleeping centuries The peace is then disturbed As missing mobile phones begin to ring

But history s haggage handlers

Will answer much the same:

"Prithee sir - I have not glimpsed the thing."

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To obtain withing to sate at the Meeting must holge their prove, together with a full statement of account at the registered office - Clareville House, 26 77 Osendon Street, London SWIY 4EP not later than 17 noon on 5th Lanuary 1990.

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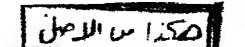
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### POETIC LICENCE

Treasmoffice Proje o sking an GARNES LUGGAGE LOST IN TIME BY MARTIN NEWELL



THIS YEST as dema With over cessiul develor Seeking and April 18 Lis on M ="2:28**d on #** and are and the d careers Vacte Big base 📽 Common Tall latte mass 🛊 - react us TEFL OUR 3 20 M



# Labour's end of term report

Has the Government started to honour its election pledge to prioritise education? Experts give their mark out of 10

BARONESS PERRY, Conservative years neglect of school buildings. Alpeer, former director of South though there's argument about how Bank University and HMI Isupervisor of teaching and administration in schools). Now president of Lucy Cavendiah College Cambridge. Mark: 6 out of 10.

"In higher education it's been a disaster. I can't tell you how angry I am with the Government. Removing student maintenance grants and introducing a tuition fee has hit the most deprived people in acciety. The only people who got grants were the poorer students. For mature students like mine it's an unclimbabte mountain. They've got to find an extra £6.000 a year. Very little of the fee money is coming in to improve universities. Overall, universities' money has gone down by 1 per cent. But I'm delighted to see more money going into further education. On schools, I welcome the proposals for better induction for new teachers. But performance-related pay is not appropriate for the teaching profession. I would like to see a much better pay scale for all teachers, but professional ways of weedag out the poor performers."

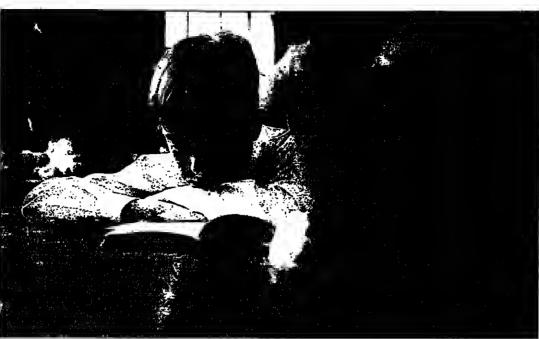
TED WRAGG, professor of education. University of Exeter.

Mark: 9 ont of 10. "It's had a very good year, It put £2,000 into each school for books, which was greatly needed, especially wben you consider that a quarter of primary schools were spending £5 or less per pupil per year oo all books. The £5bn on school buildings attract bright graduates if you're

much money will really be available. it's clearly a far bigger sum for buildings than ever before. I think it's the first time a government has done that. Reducing class sizes for younger age groups is a step in the right direction. The Green Paper on the teaching profession has a lot of good things in it. There are problems with performance-related pay. What stops the Government getting 10 out of 10 is the continuing emphasis from Downing Street oo being tough, tough, tough on teachers. It is demeaning to the profession. The other negative thing was the reap-pointment of Chris Woodhead, Chief Inspector of Schools, on a huge salary increase."

BETHAN MARSHALL, lecturer in education at King's College London. Mark: 7-and-a-half out of 10. "The Government is still far too keen to tell teachers what to do. It has put coosiderably more money into schools than the Conservatives - and that's a good thing. And the Green Paper will produce better salaries for the vast majority of teachers.

But the Government is still too prescriptive. I'm not sure it has yet got right the balance between supporting teachers and putting pressure on them. Chris Woodhead is still criticising teachers all the time. There is a crisis in recruitment and that has to do with status. And status is more than just money. You won't is also significant. We've had 20 overly restrictive of the profession."



Every school in the country received an extra £2,000 for books this year

ALAN RYAN, warden of New Col- much too much emphasis on punilege Oxford. Mark: 10 out of 10 for tive measures against hopeless universities. And look at the way it's energy: 4 oot of 10 for undersetting about further education col-"It's very good at knowing that edleges. It's all about control, punishucatioo matters and knowing it's ment, inspection, telling people bow scandalous if people can't read or to do things."

> SHEILA LAWLOR, director of Politeia. Mark: 4 out of 10. "The plus side: the Government

has kept Chris Woodhead and allowed him to continue to work for habits of Chris Woodhead; there's higher standards, challenging the ues, particularly in the case of high-

professional interest groups. It is going to allow higher pay for better teaching. The minus side is greater. There is even more central direction of schools and teachers, and less respect for the professionalism of the teacher and the autonomy of the school than under the previous regime. Plans to abolish grant-main-tained schools despite their proven

success suggest an ideological bias

against autonomy. The assault on the

good academic universibes contin-

Blackstone's vindictive treatment of Oxford and Cambridge."

NIGEL DE GRUCHY, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters Union of Women Teachers. Mark: 7 out of 10.

"The White Paper oo fairness at work and the Green Paper on teachers have enormous potential but we don't know what's going to be delivered. If they flop and we doo't get a successful outcome, then the marks would sink below five. We're not in favour of performance-related pay for teachers. Teachers should be rated for their skill, knowledge, and commitment as opposed to the outputs - exam and test results, which are influenced by the teacher but over which the teacher has nowhere oear total control."

LAURIE TAYLOR, writer and broadcaster and former professor of sociology at York University.

Mark: 7 out of 10. "Tve been pleased by the emphasis on further education, because for years further education has been underfunded and undervalued. Yet it is doing exactly what the Government wants in bringing education and training to more people. I'm very worried about the failure to recognise that oew universities are discriminated against in the university hierarchy. I dislike the way this Government treats the universities as a level playing field, when oew universities are also doing the func-

er education minister Baroness ucation, taking people in and providing access, working out ways of providing courses with less resources than other universities. No measure of value added has been developed to right the balance."

> MARTIN STEPHEN, High Master of Manchester Grammar School. Mark: 8 out of 10.

> "Well-meaning, smart in aopearance, very good when it comes to io: mal eveots, guaranteed to say the right thing. Shows signs of great promise, considerable flair and a rent capacity for divergent thinking. Will probably be facing problems from some delinquents in the far corners of the classroom (grammar school backwoodsmen). Some interesting tests of disciplinary powers coming up (grammar schools again)."

DAVID HART, general secretary of the National Association of Head

Teachers. Mark: 6 out of 10. "The jury is out. The Government will get a lot of marks from peoploutside education for its drive to raise standards. But from the profession there's the distinct feeling we've been on the receiving end of a lot of pressure. Attempts to reduce bureaucracy have not worked. Tb? end of 1998 is a defining momeot in the relationship between teachers and the Government. Before the next election we will see whether the Government can deliver money in school budgets, support for a pay structure that recruits, retains and motivates and less bureaucracy." INTERVIEWS BY LUCY HODGES

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# Meaty, Beatty, big and flouncy

Annette Bening should have had enough successful lead roles by now to convince us that she's a star in her own right. But then somebody has to go and bring up Warren... By Jeff Dawson

joked that if he were reincarnated, be'd come back as Warren Beatty's fingertips. So if you're Annette Bening, Beatty's not-quite-so-famous other balf, you run the risk of always being seen in the context of a notorious husband - the woman who tamed Tinseltown's greatest playboy. And that's a shame, because the "stunning actress and superb wiggler", as the venerable critic Pauline Kael once described her, is a serious performer in her own right.

'When you're famous, you become the object of people's projections and it doesn't have a lot to do with you," she chuckles. "I mean, sometimes people think certain things that are, in fact, true; sometimes they're not. What am I gonna do? Go on every talk show and straighten everybody out about who I really am and what our relationship is really about and who tamed who?

Not that it's a bad way to be perceived - "If I were maligned, maybe it would be harder, but people are nice" - it's just that Bening could not be further removed from a vamp if she tried. Her voice may have that Kathleen Turner-ish husk to it, but her elfin charm is far more that of Sydney Wade, the humble do-gooder she played in The American President the one who had an illicit liaison with the Chief Executive before such things became fashionable.

Having kids means Bening doesn't work nearly as much as she might. Turning 40 this year has also put her at that "difficult" age when Hollywood consigns its leading ladies to the scrapheap. In which case, her new film, The Siege, in which she is surly and unscrubbed as a CIA agent (opposite Denzel Washington's FBI chief), is a bold venture. "It's not a romantic part, it's not a mother, it's not a sister, it's not a daughter," she says. "It's a woman who is flawed and has secrets and who's made bad choices and with all these complications. That was unusual."

The Siege is certainly unusual. Coming from Ed Zwick, creator of thirtysomething and director of thoughtful military epics such as Glory and Courage Under Fire, this film also has a political slant – what happens when martial law is declared in the Big Apple after a terrorist bombing spree. Being Hollywood, the terrorists are Arab extremists, though the film attempts to raise questions about inherent prejudice against Arabs and Muslims (who are not necessarily one and the same). Like most Hollywood higguns, Bening is a Democratic fundraiser, but she's refreshingly cynical, especially when it comes to US foreign policy. "It's just so touchy to talk about any of this in the USA. It's almost impermissible."

When trailers for the film appeared in the US, juxtaposing images of prayers at mosques with New York City huses blowing up, Arab groups were not best pleased. "That's a legitimate complaint," admits Bening.



'It's not a romantic part, it's not a mother, it's not a daughter. It's a woman who's flawed': Annette Bening in "The Seige"

"That's marketing. That's scary when you really think about it. Is that what sells a movie? The movie's not antiif it was. Listen, it's such a terribly, terribly serious subject. I don't mean to make light of it, but political correct-ness is deadly. The movie, I hope. makes people think more carefully about singling out an ethnic group."

By the time the film opened in the US, noble intentions undone with the sight of General Bruce Willis gleefully duffing up the terrorists, Arab groups began to picket cinemas. The same questions will inevitably be raised here.

"Do Islamic extremists exist in the world? Yes. Is it fair to put them in the movies? Yes. Is it good to generalise? No," insists Bening. "There is anti-Arab sentiment in this country. It's almost still politically acceptable in a way that it isn't in other groups. I hope the movie talks about that."

where Bening was born, or San Diego, her fateful meeting with Beatty. where she grew up. After starting out as a dancer, she went to theatre Arab. I wouldn't have done it school in San Francisco, evolving into a stage actress who supplemented theatre work with TV work, before ending up in the John Candy/Dan Aykroyd

> 'Do Islamic extremists exist in the world? Yes. Is it fair to put them in the movies? Yes.'

film The Great Outdoors. Next was Volmont, and though Miles Forman's film fared worse than Stephen Frears' rival Dangerous Liaisons, for which she had also auditioned. Frears kept ber in mind for The Grifters, which garnered her a Best Supporting ican President. Pregnancies have

actress for the flashy gangster epic, Bugsy, Bening was courted by Beatty, in both senses of the word. Despite keeping their affair quiet, however, Bening soon announced that she was pregnant and the pair got married in time for the 1992 Oscars which didn't, as predicted, yield a clutch of awards for her busband. Still, they were feted

Casting around for a lesser-known

as Hollywood royalty, Tinseltown mar-velling at how the ageing Lothario, who had dated most of his leading ladies, and a fair few more besides -Leslie Caron, Joan Collins, Natalie Wood, Julie Christie, Britt Ekland, Diane Keaton and Madonna - had been brought to heel. Their next movie was the cloying

Love Affair, which flopped badly, putting a significant dent in Beatty's viability as a leading man, although Bening bounced back with The Amer-It's all a long way from Kansas, Actress Oscar nomination. Then came cost Bening the Catwoman part in

Balman Forever, Demi Moore's role in Disclosure and a role in What Dreams May Come.

The couple's children - Isabel (11 months), Ben (three) and Kathlyn (five) - have not completely dominated proceedings, though. Next comes American Beauty with Kevin Spacey, a version of Hedda Gabler on stage, and Neil Jordan's Blue Vision, soon to be released.

"I'm lucky, because I get to do other things. I'm an actress. If I was not able to have something separate from my husband and my children, I would be one of those women with pistols to their beads, or I would be in an asylum, or I would be having a pervous hreakdown, or I would be an alcoholic, or I would be depressed."

Fortunately, she has one very big fan "Yeah, Warren's very proud of me," she says. "He thinks I'm the

'The Siege' is released on 8 January

### THE 1998 ARTS QUIZ

Can you remember who caused a sensation when she disrobed on stage? All this and more in our trip through the past year. Compiled by Jonathan Sale



1. Who challenges the scrotally challenged?

2. Which elephant byproduct is up the wall?

3. Which photographer had his decisive moment this year?

4. Where can you hear (a) Val Kilmer, Ralph Fiennes, Michelle Pfeiffer, Sandra Bullock and Steve Martin (b) Woody Allen?

5. Why wasn't the brilliant but obscure New York artist Nat Tate at the launch of his biography by William Boyd, with extracts read by David

6. Which unclothed actress went round and

7. Which band is unlikely to win the MTV Award for Being Polite to Duchesses?

8. What film made this year's Oscars a night to remember?

9. Where won't you find

Ian McKellen?

10. Which Church charted?

11. Where was a plan for a glass roof, to make waves on the river bank,

finally shattered? 12. Where were all the stops pulled out on an

organist and his wife? 13. What was the advice given by Derek Deane of the English National Ballet to dancers in

Romeo and Juliet (above)?

14. Where did Wings of Desire fly to? 15. How did the Serpentine become a

16. Who is the Primary attraction?

LAURIE LEWIS 17. How was Sigourney

Weaver left in the cold? 18. What links the Battle

of Waterloo and the hattle of the sexes? 19. Identify towns

included in current show titles a) in the West Country (b) the Mid-West (c) the East (d) Scandinavia (e) largely underwater.

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20. Why were there bikes screeching up to the Barbican Art Gallery?

21. The old showbix maxim is: "Don't give up the day job." What regular work did Jackie Mason jack in?

22. In which Indian dish can Damien Hirst claim a one-third share?

23. How is the first editor of this paper connected

with blue movies? 24. How did five become four out are about to

become six? 25: What is The Phantom Menace (and why is

its trailer so popular)? 26. Rex Harrison played

27. What can't be placed in front of the Royal Court Theatre?

28. Which is the odd one out in the festive shows put on by the Royal Ballet at the Festival Hall: English National Ballet at the Coliseum; Birmingham Royal Ballet at the Birmingham Hippodrome; Scottish National Ballet at the Edinburgh Festival

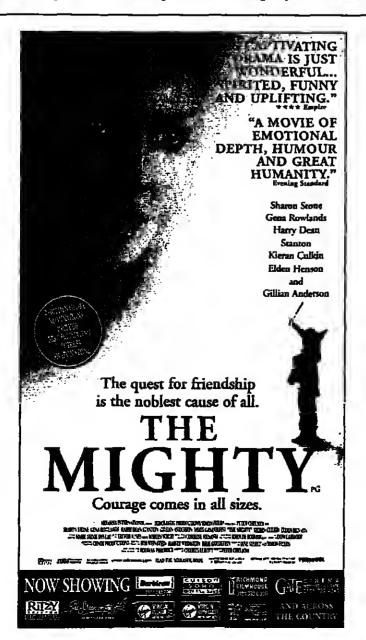
29. How did Bitches come back from the grave?

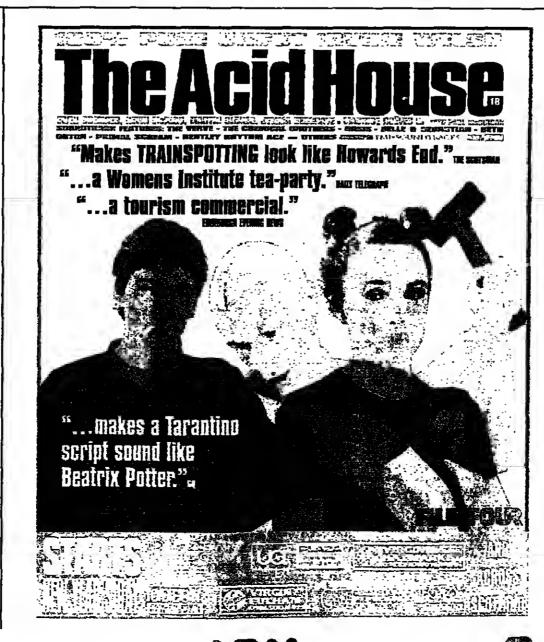
Theatre?

30.Which diabolical character brought home the Bacon?

#### **ANSWERS**

life of painter Francis Bacon. Brew Sessions. 30. Love is the Devil is the film made of the some unbeard Miles Davis tracks on The Complete Bitches the Spice Girls are en route to the maternity wards. St. It is the Spice Girls are en route to the maternity wards. St. It is the forthcoming Prisode I of the Stor Wurs prequel: only the Utalier can be seen at present, 36. Paul Schoffeld stars in Drivords in the suggested renaming as Jerwood Royal Court, words in the suggested renaming as Jerwood Royal Court, which is putting on The Wuterneless: 29. Columbia released which is putting on The Wuterneless: 29. Columbia released some unheard Miles Davis tracks on The Complete Bitches some unheard Miles Davis tracks on The Complete Bitches some unheard Miles Davis tracks on The Complete Bitches Bathican's American season 21. The US comedian is a former rabbit 22. Vindaloo: Birst contributed to the England World Cup anthem, 23. Andreas Whittam Smith is now President of the British Board of Vilm Classification 24. Geri left, but two of the British Board of Vilm Classification 24. Geri left, but two of the British Board of Vilm Classification 24. Geri left, but two of the British Board of Vilm Classification 24. Geri left, but is Chicago (c) Miss Saigon (d) Copenhagen (e) Merchant of Venice 20. The Art of the Harley and Shaker was part of the Barbican's Arcelean is a form adapted by Andrew Davies. 19. (a) Pirraiss of Pensonee (b) 17. In Ang Lee's The Ice Storm, 18. Vaning Fair, the TV series the Serpentine Gallery. Ic. John Travolta in Primory Colors. Spiders make up the theme of Louise Bourgeois's exhibition at mance, 14. City of Angels is a remake of Wings of Desire, 15. ster Abbey, 13. He advised them to have sex before the perfortung 1 numer was 1958's A Night to Remember. 9. London, whose thestres he is shandoning for the West Yorkshire Play-house, Leeds. 10, Child prodigy soprano Charlotte Church; her London's South Bank Centre with a wavy covering of glass finally ebbed away, 12. Organist and master of the Chortsters Martin Neary and wife Penny were dismissed from Westminster hopey, 13. He advised them to have sex before the performance. Price-winner Chris Offii, 3, Henri Cartier-Bresson, 90 this year, Jahose Images o in activette was published in English as The Prince of Supply, volcing Moses ele (b) Ants. 3. He did not exist. Nat Tate was invented as a spool on the art world. 6, Nicole Kidman revealed all in The Blue Hoom, David Hare's adaptation of Lo Hymy Awards Ceremony, B. The force at Fergie during the ning Titonic was 1958's A Night to Remember. 9. London, with who see the feet of multi-Oscar-winding Titonic was 1958's A Night to Remember. 9. London, who who see the feet is abandoning for the West Yorkshire Play. 1. Ewan McCregor in Little Malcolm and his Struggle Against the Eurachs. 2. Elephant dung is used in the work of Turner prize-winner Chris Offi, 3. Henri Cartier Bresson, 90 this year phose Images o la sauvene was published in English as The





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# The drugs don't work

THE BIG PICTURE



ANTHONY QUINN

THE ACID HOUSE (15) DIRECTOR: PAUL MCGUIGAN STARRING: EWEN BREMNER. MARTIN CLUNES. KEVIN McKIDD 112 MINS

ell, it's one way to ring in the new year. Paul McGuigan's triptych of films adapted from stories by Irvine Welsb arrive like gatecrashers at a hogmanay do, the sort whose eye you'd rather not catch: raucous, tattooed, heerybreathed, radge (mad, in the local vernacular), though not without a certain profane vitality and wit. McGuigan has the unenviable task of following Trainspotting, Danny Boyle's high-profile adaptation of Welsh's first book, an instant cult hit whose inventiveness still . reverberates through British cinema. Even the orange-and-black livery of that film's promotional poster bears an unforgettable iconographic integrity.

Confronted with largely the same milieu - the strugglers and strag-glers of drab, lowlife Edinhurgh -McGuigan has taken a sensible decision not to show off. Nothing in The Acid House matches the arresting visual cadenza of Ewan McGregor taking a nosedive into a toilet bowl, vet there is a measure of Trainspotting's deranged black comedy, scabrous banter and sudden violence. Regarding the last of these, it's well nigh impossible to watch the volcanic unpleasantness of Larry (Gary McCormack) raging through the middle story, "A Soft Touch", and not be reminded of the bantam ag-gression of Robert Carlyle's Beghie from the earlier film. It's the most realistic segment of the trio, relating the trials of Johnny (Kevin McKidd), left to mind his infant daughter



Alex Howden as Boab senior in "The Granton Star Cause', the first part of "The Acid House' trilogy

service the noisy lust of his peroxide-yob neighbour, Larry. Having had his video and television appropriated by the rutting couple, the hapless cuckold suffers the final indignity of seeing a hole poked through his ceiling, swiftly followed by Larry leading an extension cable to a plug point in his living room; now he's stealing his electricity.
This anecdote of domestic rup-

ture vigorously underlines the basic pessimism of Welsh's writing in that it portrays compassion as a

heart at the story's end is not humane, just a reaffirmation that he will forever be a "soft touch". Not like Boah (Stephen McCole), subject of the first story, "The Granton Star Cause"; he, too, endures one mortification after another - dropped from the football team, dumped by his girlfriend, fired from his job and booted from the familial hearth by his parents - but, instead of crumpling under adversity, an encounter with "God" in a pub alters his whole perspective. "An'm gaunny make ye

(Michelle Gomez) moves upstairs to from his humiliation; his change of are," God tells him, and promptly turns Boab into a fly. What follows is Metamorphosis crossed with a sick revenge fantasy: it feels characteristic of Welsh's sardonic humour that Boah discovers how "eating shit" - his metaphorical lot as a human - can be turned to physical advantage as an insect.

McGuigan uses harsh colour and distorting angles to convey the antic and somewhat feral turn of Welsh's imagination, though certain passages that fly off the page fail to tweak the funny bone in the same 🛳 while his sluttish wife Catriona 🛮 weakness. Johnny learns nothing 🛮 look like the dirty, lazy pest thit ye 🕆 way on screen. When Boab is caught

vandalising a phone-box, for instance, be is hauled into the cells and given a savage doing over hy a police sergeant. The reason? The policeman is a British Telecom shareholder, as he subsequently explains to Boab: "Ye ken, it jist goes tae show ye the effectiveness ay they privatisation policies. Ah would nivir huv reacted like that if ye had smashed up a phone-box when they were nationalised." The sudden change of register from demotic to officialese which is effected so wittily in prose seems cumbersome (and not very amusing) in the film. sponses apparently regressing to the ting hasn't already covered.

Welsh's sentences aren't exactly resistant to screen translation; it's just that their music goes missing. This is further evidenced in the concluding story, another grotesque fantasia of displacement in which a football hooligan named Coco (played with maniacal abandon by Ewen Bremner) has a supercharged acid trip on the night of a violent elec-trical storm and winds up trapped in the body of an infant newly born to a middle-class couple (Jemma Redgrave and Martin Clunes). Coco lies helpless in a hospital bed, his re-

level of a new-born baby. Again, Welsh's comedy of language - a bairn who talks in the broken glass accent of a Hibs supporter - is rendered too explicitly as a body-swap nightmare, with a Chucky doll performing the role of demon baby. It encapsulates the problem which a hook like The Acid House presents to the filmmaker. While Paul McGuigan's adaptation thrums with a sort of gleeful disgust, it feels oddly compromised, and says little about the druggy squalor of Edinburgh's low-rent hinterland that Trainspot-

### ALSO SHOWING

STAR TREK: INSURRECTION JONATHAN FRAKES (PG) - SITCOM FRANÇOIS OZON (18)

FROM THE annals of inter- fects, but as long as you don't heautiful people, and indeed galactic pioneering comes another Star Trek movie, with Stain Jean-Luc Picard 17 vhere most of the series a'r, ady been. Star Trek: Insation is no more than a re-i ength episode gar-C wi h pricey special ef-



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mind the formula - confrontation with a race of tyrannical expansionists, Picard and his ick Stewart; still baldly crew put to the test, edifying spectacle of multiracial harmony re-established - it makes for an amiable, undemanding entertainment

This time the plot concerns a rural utopia where the Ba'ku lead a life of nouveau-hippie contentment. It's like Palm Springs without the zimmer frames, for the Ba'ku inhabit an atmosphere that reverses the ageing process. Under the pretence of a cultural survey, a hostile tribe called the Son'a aim to get their arthritic hands on a piece of this age-free paradise. thus ensuring their own longevity and sparing their leader, Ru'afo, whose skin is as grey and wrinkly as an elephant's backside, the inconvenience of another facelift. Naturally, Pi-

finds his heart captured by a Ba'ku woman, Anij (Donna Murphy), despite her being more than 300 years old. Directed by Jonathan

Frakes, the film occasionally takes a time-out from the earnest cosmic hand-wringing for some light-hearted fun. I enjoyed the moment when Picard and the Enterprise's wheyfaced android Data (Brent Spiner) did an impromptu duet from Gilbert and Sullivan, though for all it added to the plot it might as well have heen Gilbert and George. Stewart retains a suave authority as Picard, and F Murray Abraham as Ru'afo glowers convincingly beneath his latex mask. How much longer the film-makers will continue remaking this space-age morality play is uncertain, though I can imagine it outstripping the lifespan of your average Ba'ku.

sets the equilibrium of an apparently respectable family. First the son announces he's gay; then the daughter turns suicidal. Their mother, neglected by her frigid husband, decides to try her hand at incest, while the Spanish housekeeper exercises her wiles upon the daughter's boyfriend. Ozon appears to be making

François Ozon's dehut fea-

ture, Sitcom, is a heavy-handed

French farce that will irk or en-

chant according to taste. Set

within the claustrophobic confines of a bourgeois household,

it recounts the way a pet rat up-

it up as he goes along, while the cast mug through the Almodovarian antics as best they can, and looked to be every hit as relieved as I was when it came to a halt.

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#### DOUBLE BILL

PAUL McGUIGAN, DIRECTOR OF 'THE ACID HOUSE' ON HIS IDEAL CINEMATIC PAIRING

CHITTY CHITTY BANG BANG (KEN HUGHES, 1968) GET CARTER (MIKE HODGES, 1971)

CHITTY CHITTY Bana Bang is one of my favourite films. It is a cute musical. But it's more of a spooky fairy tale. You never know where, or at what time, it's set. It uses such simple effects hut they have a great impact. It's one of those things I liked as a child and my son, Seamus, who is four and a half, went through six months of watching it at least-once a week. There are these really.

really surreal hits; for instance, the child catcher. I don't know if there has ever been such an evil character in a children's film. He does that brilliant little dance and then there is his sweetie truck. It was prohably quite innocent,

but now you think of this man enticing children into his car with sherbets and it's actually very horrible. As a film-maker, I would love to do a kid's movie. I

know people would think that's strange, but it would be a great challenge to keep them entertained. In Get Carter, Michael Caine plays a London gangster who goes to Newcastle because his

brother has been killed there. He wants to discover why and he finds out that his niece has been forced into making a porn movie. The film's style is modern and urban and its use of location is amazing, especially in the final scene where Caine is chased around a slag heap. Like Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, it's a very modern way of film

INTERVIEW BY JENNIFER RODGER



#### NEW FILMS

THE APPLE (SIB) (PG) Director: Samirah Makhmalbaf

Starring: Massoumeh Naderi, Zahra Naderi Seventeen-year-old Makhmalbaf's precocious début re-creates the true-life fortunes of Iran's Naderi sisters, raised in seclusion by their parents before being set loose by a social worker. Part docu-drama, part rites-of-passage fable. The Apple is a (uminous missive from a burgeoning Iranian film scene. West End: Metro, Renoir

ENEMY OF THE STATE (15)

**Director:** Tony Scott Starring: Will Smith, Gena Hackman

Will Smith's fall-guy DA teams up with Gene Hackman's pensioned-off Pentagon warhorse in a tale of political intrigue. A top-drawer cast weaves in and out of the hi-tech imagery and adrenalised chase scenes. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Clapham Picture House, Hammersmith Virgin, Notting Hill Coronet. Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington. Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Odeon West End, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on Baker Street, Screen on the Green, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Fulham Road

THE MIGHTY (PG) Director: Peter Chelsom

Starring: Sharon Sione, Gillian Anderson Peter Chelsom's The Mighty is a stolid and rather predictable tale of two outcast kids in Cincinnati. Sharon Stone and Gillian Anderson cope well in what basically amount to supporting roles. West End: Barbican Screen, Curzon Soho, Gate Notting Hill, Richmond Filmhouse, Screen on the Hill, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Haymarket

WHAT DREAMS MAY COME (15) Oirector: Vincent Ward

Starring: Robin Williams, Annabella Sciorra Along comes Christmas, and out comes What Dreams May Come; an over-glazed turkey with all the trimmings. Williams simpers as the dead chappie who leaves a cod-Impressionist heaven to rescue his suicide-bride (Sciorra) from a Gothic hell. Metaphysical conceits arrive with a heavy dusting of sugar. West End: ABC Baker Street, ABC Shaftesbury Avenue, Clapham Picture House, Elephant & Castle Coronet, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Haymarket, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End

. Xan Brooks

### **GENERAL** RELEASE

See The Independent Recommends, right. West End: Plaza, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys. Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Trocadero

BABE: PIG IN THE CITY (U)

In the follow-up to Babe, knockabout comedy is kept to a minimum in favour of a bleak animatronic fairytale. West End: ABC Baker Street, ABC Tottenham Court Road, Clapham Picture House, Hammersmith Virgin, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Plaza, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero

THE MASK OF ZORRO (PG)

This swashbuckler ga ops full-speed through 19th-century California in the company of Antonio Banderas's Hispanic do-gooder. West End: Clapham Picture House, Elephant & Castle Coronet, Hammersmith Virgin, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Leicester Square, Odeon Marble Arch. Odeon Swiss Cottage, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road

MULAN (U)

This has it all: pro-active heroine; strong father/daughter relationship; honour; nobility. It's also one of the most visually innovative movies that Disney has ever made. West End: Odeon Mezzanine, UCI Whiteleys, Warner Village West End

MY NAME IS JOE (15)

See The Independent Recommends, right. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Curzon Soho, Virgin Haymarket

THE NEGOTIATOR (15)

Samuel L Jackson and Kevin Spacey go head to head in this thrilling drama. West End: Odeon Morble Arch, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End

OUT OF SIGHT (15)

See The Independent Recommends, right. West End: Empire Leicester Square, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Swiss Cottage, UCI Whiteleys. Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Trocadero

THE PARENT TRAP (PG)

Disney reheats its 1961 heart-warmer in this story of twin sisters' efforts to reunite their parents. West End: Clapham Picture House, Hammersmith Virgin, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Odeon

West End, UCI Whiteleys. Virgin Chelsea

THE PRINCE OF EGYPT (U) In planning his cartoon life of Moses, Dream Works honcho Jeffrey Katzenberg envisaged it "painted by Claude Monet and photographed by David Lean". The end result winds up as The Ten Commandments by way of Joseph and his Technicolor Dreamcoat. West End: ABC Baker Street, ABC Tottenham Court Road, Barbican Screen, Clapham Picture House, Elephant & Castle Coronet, Empire Leicester Square, Hammersmith Virgin, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero

RUSH HOUR (15)

Rush Hour marries Jackie Chan with a LA backdrop, a jobbing Hollywood director and a wisecracking black comic in Chris Tucker's buckstering LAPD man. It's a hit-and-miss affair. West End: Hammersmith Virgin, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Plaza, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End

### THE INDEPENDENT RECOMMENDS

#### THE THREE BEST FILMS

Out of Sight (15) This tale of love on opposite

sides of the law knocks spots off every previous Elmore Leonard adaptation, and boasts in George Clooney and Jennifer Lopez (right) the most romantic pairing of the cinematic year.

This computer-animated comedy, voiced by a stellar cast, stars Woody Allen as worker ant "Z", who becomes an unlikely opponent

of the colony's totalitarian regime when he falls in with Princess Bakla (Sharon Stone).

My Name is Joe (15) This solid social-realist drama contains all that one would expect from a Ken Loach film humour, indignation, emotional sympathy - driveo by Peter

Mullan's intense performance as

a recovering alcoholic.

ODEON WEST END



### THE THREE BEST PLAYS

Mr Puntila and His Man

Matti (Albery Theatre) A well-deserved transfer for this Almeida hit. Comedy duo The Martin Guerre (West Right Size are inspired casting for Brecht's tale of a split-personality landowner. To 9 Jan

(Comedy Theatre) The Charles and Diana story (up

National Theatre of Brent (all

Love Upon the Throne to the divorce) presented by the

two of them). Very funny and oddly touching. To 9 Jan

Yorkshire Playhouse) It's third time lucky for this much rewritten Boublil/Schönberg musical. In Cooall Morrison's starkly involving production, it finally emerges as a tighter, magnificent show. To 13 Feb

PAUL TAYLOR

### **CINEMA**

ABC BAKER STREET (0870-902 0418) ⊕ Baker Street
Babe: Pig in the City 1.20pm,
6.10pm The Prince of Egypt 1.40pm,
4pm, 6.20pm What Dreams May

ABC PANTON STREET ABC PANTON STREET | 10870-902 0404| & Piccadilly Circus Elizabeth 2.10pm, 5.10pm The Last Days of Disco 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.10pm, 3.35pm, 6pm A Perfect Murder 1.10pm, 3.35pm, 6pm

ABC PICCADILLY (0171-287 4322 (from 1pm) & Piccadilly Circus Hamam: The Turkish Bath 1.25pm, 3.50pm, 6.10pm Sturns of Beverty Hills 1.35pm, 3.50pm, 6.10pm

ABC SHAFTESBURY AVENUE (0870-902 0402) Leicester Square/Tottenham Court Road Texas Chainsaw Massacre 1.40pm, 4.10pm, 6.40pm What Dreams May Come 1.40pm, 4.00pm, 4.00pm 1.05pm, 3.40pm, 6.05pm

ABC SWISS CENTRE ABC SWISS CENTRE
(0870-902 0403) © Leicester
Square/Piccadilly Circus Angel Shariss
1.10pm, 3.10pm, 6.10pm The Eel
(Unagi) 1.10pm, 3.35pm, 6.05pm
The Governess 1.30pm, 3.55pm,
6.15pm La Vie Revée des Anges
1.15pm, 3.35pm, 5.55pm

ABC TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD (0870-902 0414) & Tottenham Court Road Babe: Pig in the City 1.10pm, 3.40pm Enemy of the State 1.05pm, 3.45pm, 6.25pm My Name is Joe 6.30pm The Prince of Egypt 1.15pm, 3.55pm, 6.50pm

BARBICAN SCREEN (0171-638 8891) Barbican The Mighty 3pm, 6.15pm The Prince of Egypt 3pm, 5.30pm

CHELSEA CINEMA (0171-351 3742) © Sloane Square On Connalt la Chanson 1pm, 3.30pm,

CLAPHAM PICTURE HOUSE (0171-498 3323) & Clapham Common Babe: Pig in the City 12.30pm Enemy of the State 6.20pm, 9pm The Mask of Zdrro pione for times The Parent Trap 1pm, 3.45pm The Prince of Egypt phone for times What Dreams May Come 4.15pm

**CURZON MAYFAIR** (0171-369 1720) Green Park Dancing at Lughnasa 4.30pm The Philadelphia Story 2pm, 6.30pm

**CURZON SOHO** 2255 (12pm-6pm) (0171-734 22SS (12pm → Leicester Square/Tottenham Road Casablanca 2pm, 4.45pm Elizabeth 1.45pm The Mighty Elizabeth 1.45pm The Mighty 1.15pm, 3.15pm, 5.15pm My Name

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE The Mask of Zorro phone for times The Prince of Egypt phone for times What Dreams May Come phone for

EMPIRE LEKESTER SQUARE (0990-888990) O Leicester Square 12.40pm, 3.15pm, 6.10pm Out of Sight 12.10pm, 2.55pm, 5.50pm The Prince of Egypt 10.45am. 1pm,

**GATE NOTTING HILL** 

(0171-727 4043) → Notting Hill Gate The Mighty 4.4Spm, 6.55pm HAMMERSMITH VIRGIN

(0870-907 0718) & Hammersmith Babe: Pig In the City 12.40pm Enemy of the State 3pm, 6.10pm The Mask of Zorro 12noon, 3pm, 6pm The Parent Trap 12.10pm, 3pm 6pm The Parent Trap 12.10pm. 3pm The Prince of Egypt 12.15pm. 2.20pm, 4.30pm. 6.30pm

NOTTING HILL CORONET (0171-727 6705) & Notting Hill Gate Enemy of the State 3pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm

ODEON CAMDEN TOWN (08705-050007) & Camden Town Babe: Pig in the City 11.45am Enemy of the State 12.15pm, 3pm. 5.50cm The Mask of Zorro 11,40am 5.30pm The Mask of Zorro 11.40pm, 2.45pm, 5.40pm The Parent Trap 12.10pm, 2.55pm The Prince of Egypt 11.40pm, 2.15pm, 4.30pm, 6.45pm Rush Hour 2.15pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm What Dreams May Come 5.55pm

**ODEON HAYMARKET** (08705-050007) & Piccadilly Circus What Dreams May Come 1.10pm, 3.35pm, 6.05pm

ODEON KENSINGTON
(08705-050007) 

Whigh Street
Kensington Babe: Pig in the City
1.30pm, 3.55pm Enemy of the State
12.05pm, 3.10pm, 6.15pm The Mask
of Zorro 2.25pm, 5.40pm Out of
Sight 6.20pm The Parent Trap 1pm,
4pm The Prince of Egypt 12noon,
2.25pm, 4.50pm, 7.15pm, 9.40pm
Rush Hour 7.05pm, 9.40pm What
Dreams May Come 1.30pm, 4.15pm,
7om ODEON KENSINGTON

ODEON LEICESTER SQUARE (08705-050007) ↔ Lekcester Square The Mask of Zorro 11.40pm, 2.30pm

ODEON MARBLE ARCH (08705-050007) Marble Arch Babe: Pig in the City 12.05pm Enemy of the State 12noon, 3.05pm, 6.05pm The Mask of Zorro 11.45am, 2.50pm, 5.55pm The Prince of Frap 12.15pm, 3.15pm The Prince of Egypt 12.30pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm Rush Hour 2.15pm, 4.40pm, 7.05pm What Dreams May Come 5.55pm

OB705-05007) © Leicester Square
Elizabeth 12.35pm, 3.05pm Lock,
Stock & Tuvo Smoking Barrels
1.25pm, 3.55pm Les Miserables
3.30pm Mulan 1.40pm, 3.50pm
Snake Eyes 1.05pm There's
Something About Mary 12.45pm. 4.15pm, 6.30pm What Dreams May Come 3.35pm, 6.10pm

ODEON SWISS COTTAGE (08705-050007) & Swiss Cottage Babe: Pig in the City 12.10pm Enemy of the State 12.10pm, 2.50pm The Mask of Zorro 2.15pm The Parent

SAFARI (0181-688 3422) BR: West Croydon, Babe: Pig in the City 12.10pm, 2.15pm Enemy of the State 5.20pm, 8.20pm The Mask of Zorro 12.05pm The Parent Trap 12.05pm, 2.40pm The Prince of Egypt 12noon, 2.20pm The Prince of Egypt 12noon, Irap 12.15pm, 3.05pm The Prince of Egypt 1pm, 3.25pm Rush Hour 1.30pm, 4pm What Dreams May Come 12.30pm, 3.15pm

MARNER VILLAGE (0181-680 8090) BR (08705-050007) & Leicester Square Enemy of the State 12.30pm, 3.20pm, 5.30pm, 6.15pm The Parent Trap 12.05pm, 2.45pm PEPSI IMAX CINEMA (0171-494 4153) ← Piccadilly Circus Everest 2.40pm, 4.45pm T-Resc Back to the Cretaceous (3-D) 11.30am. 1.35pm, 3.40pm, 5:45pm

PLAZA (0990-888990) & Piccadilly Circus Antz 1.15pm, 3.30pm Babe: Pig In the City 12.45pm, 3.10pm, 5.30pm Rush Hour 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm

(0171-837 8402) C Russell Square The Apple (5ib) 1pm, 2.55pm, 4.50pm, 6.45pm, 8.45pm On Connaix la Charson 3.45pm, 8.35pm The Philadelphia Story 1.25pm, 6.15pm

(0171-733 2229) BR/& Brixton Antz (0171-733 2229) BR/O Brixton Antz 12.45pm, 2.45pm, 4.45pm Babe: Pig in the City 12.25pm, 2.25pm Enemy of the State 12.40pm, 3.20pm The Mask of Zorro 12.40pm, 3.30pm The Prince of Egypt 12noon, 2.15pm, 4.35pm La Vie Revée des Anges

SCREEN ON BAKER STREET (0171-935 2772) Baker Street Enemy of the State 2.40pm, 5.30pm Left Luggage 2.30pm, 4.40pm, 6.50pm SCREEN ON THE GREEN

(0171-226 3520) ⊕ Angel/Highbury & Islington Enemy of the State 2.40pm, 5.30pm 

The Mighty Luggage 4.40pm 2.40pm, 6.50pm 4,40pm THE TRICYCLE CINEMA

(01.71-328 1000) ♥ Kilburn Enemy of the State 3.40pm (Thur), 6.20pm UCI WHITELEYS

UCI WHITELEYS
(0990-888990) © Oueensway Antz
11.30am, 2pm, 4pm Babe: Pig in the
City 11.10am, 12.10pm, 1.40pm,
2.30pm, 4.20pm Enemy of the State
11.40am, 2.45pm, 5.40pm The Mask
of Zorro 12noon, 3.05pm, 6pm
Mulan 11am Out of Sight phone for
times The Parent Trap phone for
times The Prince of Egypt 11.20am,
1.30pm, 5.50pm, 6.15pm What Dreams May Come 1.10pm, 4.10pm,

VIRGIN CHELSEA (0870-907 0710) Square/South Kens Sloane 1.15pm Enemy of the State 2.15pm 5pm Out of Sight 8.30pm The Parent Trap 12.45pm, 3pm, 5.45pm Rush Hour 3.30pm, 6.15pm What Dreams May Come 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm

VIRGIN FULHAM ROAD (0870-907 0711) ← South Kensington Babe: Pig in the City 12noon, 2.10pm, 4.15pm Elizabeth 2pm, 5.30pm Enemy of the State 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 6pm The Mask of Zorro 12.20pm, 3.10pm, 6.10pm The Mighty 1pm. 4pm, 6.30pm The Negotiator 6.20pm The Prince of Egypt 12.10pm, 2.15pm, 4.25pm, 6.40pm

VIRGIN HAYMARKET (0870-907 .0712) Piccadilly Circus Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas 12.45pm, 3.20pm, 6pm The Mighty 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm My Name

VIRGIN TROCADERO WIRGIN TROCADERO
(0870-907 0716) & Piccadilly Circus
Antz 12..20pm. 2.10pm, 4.10pm
Babe: Pig in the City 12.20pm,
2.20pm. 4.20pm Elade 6.25pm Out
of Sight 12ncon, 2.50pm, 5.40pm
The Prince of Egypt 12.50pm,
3.20pm, 5.50pm Rush Hour
12.10pm, 2.25pm, 4.40pm, 7pm
There's Something About Many There's Something About Mary 6.20pm The Truman Show 1pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm What Dreams May

Come 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 6pm WARNER VILLAGE WEST END (0171-437 4343) & Leicester Square (0171-437 4343) & Leicester Square Blade 1.40pm. 4.10pm. 7pm The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) 3.55pm, 6.40pm Lethal Weapon 4 1.10pm. 4pm, 6.50pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm Mulan 11.40pm. 3.55pm The Negotiator 11.40pm. 2.40pm. 5.40pm A Perfect Murder 1.10pm. 3.50pm 6.25pm 6.25pm Murder, 2.40pm, 3.40pm, 6.25pm Murder, 1.10pm, 3.50pm, 6.25pm Rush Hour 12.50pm, 3.20pm, 6.30pm What Dreams May Come 12.20pm, 1.50pm, 3pm, 4.20pm, 5.30pm, 6.50pm,

#### **CINEMA** LONDON LOCALS

PARK ROYAL WARNER VILLAGE (0181-896 0066) + Park Royal Antz 11.30am, 1.30pm, 3.40pm, 5.50pm Babe: Pig In the City 10.20am, 12.30pm, 2.40pm, 4.50pm The Mask of Zorro 12noon, 2.50pm, 5.40pm Mu-Ian 10.10am The Parent Trap 11.10am, 1.55pm, 4.40pm The Prince of Egypt 11am, 1.15pm, 4pm, 6.20pm Rush Hour 11.05am, 1.25pm, 3.50pm, 6.50pm Small Soldiers 11.15am What Dreams May Come 1.35pm, 4.10pm,

BECKENHAM ABC (0870 9020412) BR: Beckenham Junction Antz 12noon Babe: Pig in the City 1.20pm Enemy of the State 3.10pm, 6pm The Parent Trap (1961 Version) 12.20pm The Prince of Egypt 2pm.

CLOCKTOWER (0181-253 1030) BR: Croydon West The Mighty 2pm. 4pm

East Croydon Antz 11,20am, 1,20pm, 3,25pm, 5,20pm Babe: Pig in the City 10,40am, 1pm, 3,15pm, 5,45pm Enemy of the State 12noon, 2,50pm, 6pm The Mask of Zorro 12.05pm, 3pm, 5.55pm Mulan 10.10am The Parent Trap 11.40am, 2.40pm, 5.40pm The Prince of Egypt 10.30am, 12.50pm, 3.10pm, 5.30pm Rush Hour 10.50am, 1.10pm, 3.30pm, 6.05pm Small Soldiers 10.20am What Dreams May Come 12.40pm, 3.20pm, 5.50pm

**FDMONTON** LEE VALLEY UCI 12 (0990-888990) & Tottenham Hale Antz 10.45am, 1.05pm, 3.20pm, 5.35pm Babe; Pig in the City 11.15am, 12.30pm, 1.45pm, 3.10pm, 4.10pm, 5.30pm, 6.35pm Enemy of the State 12noon, 12.45pm, 3pm, 3.45pm, 5.55pm, 6.45pm The Mask of Zorro 2.45pm, 5.45pm The Mighty 2.35pm, 5.20pm Mulan 11.35am The Parent Ten 1.15pm, 4.15pm The Prince of 5.20pm Mulan 11.33am The Patent Trap 1.15pm, 4.15pm The Prince of Egypt 10.45am, 11.30am, 1.05pm, 2pm, 3.35pm, 4.35pm, 6.05pm, 7pm, 8.25pm Rush Hour 1.35pm, 4pm, 6.20pm Small Soldiers 10.55am What

Dreams May Come 1.25pm, 4.25pm **FINCHLEY ROAD** WARNER VILLAGE (0171-604 3110) WARNER VILLAGE (0171-604 3110)

Finchley Road Antz 11.10am,
1.30pm Babe: Pig in the City 10.20am,
2.40pm, 5.10pm Enemy of the State
12.30pm. 3.40pm, 6.30pm The Mask
of Zorro 11.20am, 2.20pm, 5.30pm The
Negotiator 5.40pm The Parent Trap
10.25am, 1pm, 3.35pm, 6.40pm The
Prince of Egypt 10.30am, 12.45pm,
3.10pm, 5.50pm Rush Hour 2.50pm,
5.20pm Small Soldiers 12.10pm What
Dreams May Come 12.50pm, 3.20pm. Dreams May Come 12.50pm, 3.20pm,

HAMPSTEAD ABC (0870-9020413) ← Betsize Park Babe: Pig in the City 1.30pm, 3.40pm Enemy of the State 5.55pm The Par-ent Trap 2.20pm The Prince of Egypt 1.15pm, 3.30pm, 6.15pm What Dreams May Come 5.55pm

HOLLOWAY **ODEON (0870S 050007) & Holloway** Road/Archway Antz 4.30pm, 6.30pm Babe: Pig in the City 12.15pm, 2.20pm Enemy of the State 12noonm, 2.20pm, 2.45pm, 5.10pm, 5.35pm The Mask of Zorro 1.40pm, 5pm Mulan 12.55pm The Parent Trap 12.35pm, 3.15pm The Prince of Egypt 12.10pm, 2.20pm, 4.35pm Rush Hour 12.05pm, 2.20pm, 4.35pm, 6pm Small Soldiers 12noon hat Dreams

KINGSTON ABC OPTIONS (0870-9020409) BR: Kingston Antz 1.35pm Enemy Of the

MUSWELL HILL ODEON (08705 050007) © Highgate Babe: Pig in the City 12.20pm Ene-my Of the State 2.50pm, 5.30pm The Mask of Zorro 2.30pm, 5.20pm The Egypt 1pm, 3.30pm, 6pm

PURLEY ABC (0870-9020407) BR: Purley Babe: Pig in the City 1.35pm, 3.35pm Enemy of the State 4.40pm The Parent Trap 2.10pm The Prince of Egypt

ABC (0870 9020401) BR: Putney/® Putney Bridge Antz 1,15pm Babe: Pig in the City 1.30pm, 3.45pm Enemy of the State 5.15pm The Parent Trap 2.15pm The Prince of Egypt 3.45pm, 6.15pm What Dreams May Come

RICHMOND ODEON (08705 050007) BR/ Rich mond Enemy of the State 12.10pm 3cm. forn The Mask of Zorro 2.10pm 40pm The Prince of Egypt 1.10pm

ODEON STUDIO (08705 050007) BR/ Richmond Antz 2pm, 4pm Babe. Pig in the City 1.30pm Out of Sight 6pm The Parent Trap 12.30pm, 3.10pm What Dreams May Come 1.30pm.

SURREY OUAYS UCI (0990 888990) & Surrey Quays Antz 11.45am, 2.35pm Babe: Pig in the City 11.35am, 12.20pm, 1.45pm, 2.50pm, 4.10pm, 5.10pm, 7.20pm Enemy of the State 12noon, 12.40pm, 3pm, 3.20pm, 6pm The Mask of Zorro 12.30pm, 3.30pm, 6.30pm Mulan 11.15am The Parent Trap 12.10pm, 3.05pm, 5.50pm The Prince of Egypt 10.45am. 1.15pm. 3.45pm, 6.15pm Rush Hour 5pm, 7.30pm What Dreams May Come

1.25pm, 4pm, 6.50pm NEW STRATFORD PICTURE HOUSE (555 3366) BR/O Stratford East Babe: Pig in the City 12.15pm, 2.15pm, 4.15pm Enemy of the State 3.15pm. 6pm The Mask of Zorro 12.10pm, 3pm, 5.50cm The Parent Trap 12.40cm The Prince of Egypt 12noon, 2.05pm, 4.30om What Dreams May Come

TURNPIKE LANE CORONET (0181-888 2519) O Turnplke Lane Enemy of the State phone for details The Mask of Zorro phone for details The Parent Trap phone for details The Prince of Egypt phone

WALTHAMSTOW Central Antz 1,10pm Babe: Pig in the City 12,55pm Enemy of the State 3.15pm The Parent Trap 12.40pm The Prince of Egypt 3.35pm What Dreams May Come 3.20pm

the hit film about life in an American CORONET (0181-850 3351) 8R: high school Cambridge Earlham Street, WC2 |0171-494 5080) & Covent Eitham The Prince of Egypt phone for Garden, Mon-Sat 7.30pm. (4)[7) 3.00pm, £10-£30, 150 mlns. details What Dreams May Come phone

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#### **CINEMA** REPERTORY

LONDON NFT South Bank SE1 (0171-633 0274) Sling Blade 4pm The Wind and the Lion Thur 4.15pm

PRINCE CHARLES Lekester Place WC2 (0171-437 8181) Cop Land 1pm The X-Files

WATERMANS ARTS CENTRE High Sreet, Brentford, Middlesex (0181-568 1176) Dancing at Lughnasa 3.30pm, Mulan 1.30pm. RRIGHTON

DUKE OF YORK'S (01273-626261) Elizabeth 2pm Fire 4.30pm Mulan 12om. ARTS CINEMA

(01223-504444) Elizabeth 2pm My Name is Joe 4.30pm NORWICH

(01603-622047) It's a Wonderful

#### Life 8.15pm There's Something About Mary 2.30pm, 5.30pm. THEATRE WEST END

Ticket availability details are for today; times and prices for the week; running times include intervals. ——Seats at all prices 0 — Seats at some prices 0 — Returns only Matiness — )1]: Sun. [3]: Tue. )4]: Wed, [5]: Thur. )6]: Fri. [7]: Sat

) ALARMS AND EXCURSIONS Michael Frayn's new comedy about a dinner party which is interrupted by mysterious messages stars Felicity Keodal and Josie Lawrence. Gielgud Shaftesbury Avenue, WI (0171-494 5065) & Picc Circ, Mon-Sat 7, 45pm. [5][7] 3pm, £19.50-£27.50. 130 mins.

● AMADEUS David Suchet stars as Salieri in Peter Shaffer's acclaimed dra-ma. Old Vic The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 7616/cc 420 0000) BR/O Waterloo. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4] 2.30pm, [7] 3pm, from £7.50-£30, 180 mins.

ANNIE Rags to riches story of the

optimistic orphan. Victoria Palace Victoria Street, 5W1 (0171-834 1317) BR/O Victoria, Tue-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, (1] 4pm, £7.50-£32.50. 165 mins. ART Larry Lamb, Jack Dee. Tim Healy in Yasmima Reza's comedy about art and friendship, Wyndham's Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1736/cc 0171-867 1111) 

Leic Sq. Tue-Sat 8.00pm, [4] 3.00pm, [7][1] 5.00pm.

£9.50-£27,50. 90 mlns ● BEAUTY AND THE BEAST Lav-ish family musical based on Disney's car-tooo version of the favourite fairy tale. Dominion Tottenham Court Road, W1 0171-656 1888) @ Tott Ct Rd. Today

2.30om. £18.50-£35. 150 mins.

 BLOOD BROTHERS Willy Russell's long-running Liverpool musical melo-drama about twins who are separated at birth. Phoenix Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1733) € Leic 5q/Tott Ct Rd Mon-Sat 7.45pm, )5) 3.00pm, (7) 4.00pm, £11.50-£32.50, 165 mlns.

**● BOOGIE NIGHTS** Shane Richie stars in s brand new 1970s musical Savoy Strand, WC2 (0171-836 8888/cc 0171 836 0479) & Charing X/Embankment. Mon-Thu 8pm, Fri-Sat 8.30pm, [6] 5.30pm, [7] 5pm, ends 9 Jan, £11-£28.50, 150 mins.

• CATS Lloyd Webber's musical version of TS Eliot's poems. New London Parker Street. WC2 (0171-405 0072/cc 0171-404 4079) ⊕ Covent Garden/Holborn, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [3)[7] 3.00pm, booking to June 26, £12.50

O CHICAGO Maria Friedman and Peter Davison star in this hit Broadway musical about two murderous women and their nightclub act. Adelphi Maiden Lane. WC2 (0171-344 0055) Charing X. Mon-5at 8pm. )4)(7)
3pm. booking to Sep 25. £16-£36 (inc.) booking fee). I 30 mins.

 CINDERELLA Angela Carter's version of this fairytale is staged by the acclaimed Improbable Theatre. Lyric Hammersmith King Street, W6 (0181-741 2311) & Hammersmith, Today 2.30pm, ends 9 Jan, £5-£18, concs

● THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (ABRIDGED) Reduced Shakespeare Company fast-forward through 37 clays. Criterion Piccadilly Circus, W1 (0171-369 1747) & Picc Circ. Today 3pm & 8pm, £6-£25, Thu mats - all seats £10.

DR DOLITTLE Phillip Schofield talks to the animals in this new stage adap-tation featuring Jim Henson Puppets. London Apollo Hammersmith Queen Caroline Street, W6 (0171-416 6022) ⊕ Hammersmith, Today 2.30pm, £10-£32.50. 150 mins.

stage version of the TV series charting the highs and lows of a class of young showbiz hopefuls. Prince of Wales Coventry Street, W1 (0171-839 5972) ◆ Leic 5q/Picc Circ. Mon-Thu 8pm. Fri 5.30pm & 8.30pm, Sat 4pm & 8pm,

O FILUMENA Judi Oeoch and Michael Pennington star in Timberlake Wertenbaker's new translation of Ed-uardo de Filippo's play. Piccadilly Den-man Street, W1 (0171-369 1734) & Picc Today 3pm, ends 27 Feb, £12-£30. GREASE Energetic stage version of

 AN EDEAL HUSBAND Christopher Cazenove and Susannah York in Peter Hall's acclaimed production of Wilde's comedy. Lyric Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5045) & Picc Circ. Tonight 7.45pm, £8.50-£29.50, 165 mlns.

● AN INSPECTOR CALLS Stephen Daldry's widely-acclaimed production of JB Priestley's thriller Garrick Charing Cross Road. WC2 (0171-494 5085) ← Leic Sq. Mon-Fri 7.45pm, Sat 8.15pm. )4] 2.30pm, [7) 5.00pm, £10.50-£25,

) INTO THE WOODS Sondheim and Lapine's acclaimed musical based on fairytales. Donmar Warehouse Eartham Street, WC2 (0171-369 1732) 
Octovent Garden. Tonight 7.30pm, £15-

THE INVENTION OF LOVE Tom Stoppard's play about the life of poet A E Houseman, author of The Shropshire Lod. Theatre Royal, Haymarket Hay-market. SW1 (0171-930 8800) & Picc Circ. Tue-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm.

● JESUS, MY BOY Tom Conti stars in John Dowie's alternative Christmas show. Apollo Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5070) ● Picc Circ. Today 5pm & 8pm, £5.50-£18.50.

● KAFKA'S DICK Eric Sykes and Juia Mackenzie star in Alan Bennett's com-edy about the moribund writer Piccadilly Denman Street, W1 (0171-369 1734) Picc Circ. Tonight 8pm, ends 26 Feb.

**● LOVE UPON THE THRONE Taste-**

ful look at the Charles and Diana mar-riage. Comedy Panton Street, SW1 (0171-369 1731) & Picc Circ/Leic Sq. Tonight apm, ends 9 Jan, £7.50-£25. LES MISERABLES Musical dramatisation of Victor Hugo's masterpiece. Palace Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-434 0909) & Picc Circ, Mon-Sat 7.30pm,

[5][7] 2.30pm, £7-£35. 195 mins, MISS SAIGON Musical which resets the Modom Butterfly tragedy to Vietnam.
Theatre Royal, Drury Lane Catherine
Street, WC2 (0171-494 5060) Covent
Garden. Mon-5at 7.45pm, [4]|7)
3.00pm, £5.75-£35. 165 mins.

THE MOUSETRAP Agetha Christie's windumit. St Martin's West Street, WC2 (0171-836 1443) ◆ Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 8.00pm. [3) 2.45pm. [7] 5.00pm, £10-£24,50. 135 mins. MR PUNTILA AND HIS MAN MAT-

Ti Sean Foley and Hamish McColl star in a new version of Brecht's comedy satire. Albery St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-369 1730) ⊕ Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. [5][7] 3pm, ends 9 Jan. £5-€22 50 THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA Andrew Lloyd Webber's Gothic musical estv's Havmarket. SW1 (0171

Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [4))7[ 3.00pm, PRENT Musical inspired by La Boheme and set in modern day New York, Shaftesbury Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (07000-211221) ← Holborn/fott Ct Rd. Mon-Sar 7.30pm. (4((7(3pm, £12.50-

494 5400/cc 0171-344 4444) O Picc

ROYAL NATIONAL THEATRE OLIVIER: Peter Pan Stephen Oliver's music accompanies the tale of the Boy Who Would Not Grow Up, with Michael Bryant as the Storyteller in rep today 2pm & 7.15pm.

LYTTELION: Betrayal Pinter's defining work depicts a menage s trois and stars Imogen Stubbs and Douglas Hodge. In rep tonight 6pm. 90 mins.

O COTTESLOE: Copenhagen New dra-ma from Michael Frayn about the discovery of the atom. In rep tonight 7.30pm. 145 mins. Olivier & Lyttelton: £8-£27. Cottesloe: £12-£18. Day seats m 10am. South Bank, SE1 (0171-452 30001. BR/O Waterloo.

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPA THE BARBICAN: The Tempest Adri-an Noble directs Shakespeare's romance drama. In rep tonight 7.15pm.

● THE PTI: The Two Gentlemen Of Verona Shakespeare's witty comedy is directed by Edward Hall. In rep today 2pm & 7.15pm. Barbican Theatre: £5-£26. The Pit: £11-£18.50. Barbican Centre, ECZ (0171-638 8891). BR/e Barbican/Moorgate. O SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER HIL O SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER HIT 1970s musical featuring legendary songs by the Bee Gees and starring Adam Garcia. London Palladium Ar-gyll Street. W1 (0171-494 5020) ⊕ Oxford Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, (4)(7)

2.30pm, £10-£32.50. 135 mins. STARLIGHT EXPRESS Andrew Lloyd Webber's hi-tech roller-musical. Apollo Victoria Wilton Road. SW1 (0171-416 6070) BR/O Victoria. oday 5pm, £12.50-£30. 150 mins.

O THINGS WE DO FOR LOVE O THINES WE DO FOR LOVE Belinda Langstars in Alan Ayckbourn's comedy, Duchess Catherine Street, WC2 (0171-494 5075/cc 0171-344 4444) 9 Covent Garden, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5][7(3pm, ends 23 Jan, £15-£27.50, 140 mins. THE WEIR Conor McPherson's dra-

ma is set in Ireland and examines

ideas of ghosts and angels. Royal Court Downstairs (at the Duke Of York's)

5t Martin's Lane, WC2 10171-565

5000) ← Leic Sq/Charing X. Today 4pm. £5-£25, 90 mins. WEST SIDE STORY Brand new production of Bernstein's classic musical, ettempting to recreate the feel of the original Broadway hit. Prince Ed-ward Old Compton Street, WI (017) 447 5400) € Leic Sq/Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. [5][7] 3pm, £15-£35.

DWHISTLE DOWN THE WIND I Lloyd Webber's new musical based on the film of the same name. Aldwych Aldwych. WC2 (0171-416 6000/cc 0171-836 2428) & Holborn, Today 5pm, £10-£32.50, 120 mins.

● THE WOMAN IN BLACK Susan Hill's chilling ghost story. Fortune Russell Street. WC2 (0171-836 2238/cc 0171-344 4444) & Covent Garden/Holborn. Mon-Sat 8pm. [3] 3pm. Sat 4pm. £8.50-£23.50. 110 mins.

#### **THEATRE** BEYOND THE WEST END

HACKNEY EMPIRE Dick Whittington and His Cat Anita Dobson and Paul Moriarty star. Today 2.30pm & 6pm. ends 10 Jan. £5.50-£15.50. Mare Street, E8 (0181-985 2424) BR: Hackney Central.

HAMPSTEAD THEATRE Little Maicolm and His Struggie Against the Eu-nuchs Ewan McGregor stars as the revolutionary activist in David Halli-well's drama. Mon-Sat 8pm. mats 5at 3.30pm, ends 2 Jan. £9-£16, concs £6. Avenue Road, NW3 (0171-722 9301) Swiss Cottage.

RICHMOND THEATRE Jack and the Beanstalk Toyah Willeox, Mark Curry and Vicki Michelle join the stars of Rainbow. Today 2pm & 7pm, ends 30 Jan. £8-£15, concs available. The Green. Richmond. Surrey (0181-940 0088)

WINELEDON THEATRE Coderella An all-star cast in this year's panto extravaganza Britt Eldand, Bradley Walsh, Kriss Alrabusi, Gary Bushell and Generation Game's Melanie Stace. To-day 2pm & 7pm, ends 31 Jan. £9-£16.50, concs available. The Broad-way. SW19 (0181-540 0362)

### THEATRE

BASINGSTOKE HAYMARKET THEATRE Canterbury Tales Join the Wife of Bath and Chaucer's other characters in Merrie Olde England. Tonight 7.45pm, ends 9 Jan. £10.50-£16,50, concs avallable. Wote Street (01256-465566)

THEATRE ROYAL Mother Goose Christopher Biggins is Mother Goose. To-day 2pm & 5pm, ends 9 Jan. £7.50-£12.50, concs available. Bond Street (01273-328488) GARDNER ARTS CENTRE The Wind

BRIGHTON

In the Willows Kenneth Grahame's en-chanting tale of river life is adapted for the stage. Today 2,30pm. £6.95-£8.95, concs available. University of Sussex, Lewes Road (01273-685861) EVERYMAN THEATRE Aladdin Princesses, pagodas and antics in Peking, Today 12pm & 4pm, ends 16 Jan. £4.50-

£13. Regent (01242-572573) ORCHARD THEATRE Aladdin Gladia tor Cobra stars in this panto spectacu-lac Today 2pm & 5pm, ends 17 Jan.

EASTBOURNE DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE CITderella Eastbourne's Christmas treat starring Hinge and Bracket and Wendy Craig, Today 3pm, ends 10 Jan. £7-£11, cons available. Compton Street (01323-

GUILDFORD YVONNE ARNAUD THEATRE Jack and the Beanstalk Rosemarie Ford, Tim Brooke Taylor and Robert Powell join Are You Being Served's Trevor Bannister. Yoday 2.30pm & 7pm, ends 3 Jan. £9.50-£17.50, concs available. Millbrook

WOLSEY THEATRE A Christmas Carol The Wolsey Theatre offers Oickens's tale of greed in Victorian London as an alternative to pantomime. Today 2pm, ends 9 Jan. £5-£15, concs available. Civic Drive (01473-253725)

NORTHAMPTON

HEATRE ROYAL Aladdin East Anglia's biggest pantomime stars Desmond Barrif, Christopher Cazenove and Nichola McAuliffe. Today 2.30pm & 7.30pm, ends 24 Jan. £3-£12.75, concs avallable. Theatre Street (01603-£320000) Theatre 5treet (01603-630000) APOLLO THEATRE Jesus Christ Superstar Tim Rice and Lloyd Webber's acclaimed biblical musical, Today 3000

ends 9 Jan. £7.50-£24.50, concs avail-able. George Street (01865-244544) PLYMOUTH BARBICAN THEATRE Beauty and the Beasties Updated version of the classic love story. Today 2.30pm & 7.30pm, ends 9 Jan, £7.50, concs

£4.50. Castle 5treet |01752-267131) POOLE ARTS CENTRE Aladdin Dora Bryan stars as the Slave Of the Ring alongside Tracey Childs and David McAlister of Hollyouks. Today 2.30pm & 7pm, ends 16 Jan. £5,90-£11.90, concs available. Kingland Road (01202-685222)

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON ROYAL SHAKESPEARE THEATRE THE Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe Adrian Noble directs Adrian Mitchell's adap-tation of the CS Lewis Namia classic. foday 2.30pm & 7.15pm, ends 27 Feb.

SWAN THEATRE A Month in the Country Brian Friel's adaptation of Turgenev's portrait of all-consuming sexual desire. Michael Attenborough directs. Tonight 7.30pm, ends Feb 20

Trollus and Cressida Shakespeare depiction of the human spirit undermined by bloody warfare. Today 1.30pm. ends Feb 20. £5-£30. Waterside (01789-295623)

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# NEW YEAR'S EVE RADIO

RADIO 1 (976-99.8MHz FM) 7.00 Chris Moyles. 10.00 Scott Mills. 100 Kevin Greening. 4.00 The Official UK Top 40 of the Year. 7.00 Pete Tong's Essential Selection. 10.00 Radio 1 Live in Glasgow. 12.00 - 6.00 Essential New Year.

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RADIO 2 (88-90.2MHz FM) 6.00 Mo Dutta. 8.05 Sarah Kennedy. 10.00 Richard Allinson. 12.00 Jimmy Young. 2.00 Alex Lester. 5.05 Johnnie Walker. 7.00 Luther Vandross New Year Collection, 8.00 Paul Jones, 9.00 Barry Took's Cornedy Classics. 9.30 Love 40 - New Balls Please. 10.00 Richard Alfinson's New Years Eve Party. 1.00 Katrina Leskanich. 3.00 4,00 Nicky Home.

RADIO 3

(90.2-92.4MHz FM)

6.00 On Air. 9.00 Masterworks. 10.30 Artist of the Week. 11.00 Sound Stories. 12.00 Composer of the Week: 1.00 Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert 2.00 The BBC Orchestras. 4.00 Mozart Voices. 4.45 Music to Die For, 5.00 A Medieval Christmas. 5.30 Music Rooms. 6.00 Discovering Music with Leonard Statkin. 7.00 Cabaret Cocktails. 7.30 Performance on 3. Another chance to hear nine of the most memorable concerts of the 1998 BBC Proms season at the Royal Albert Hall, London. 8: In Prom 60, given on 3 September, featured one of the great world orchestras with Mahler's titanic fifth symphony and a major new work by Birtwistle commissioned for Chicago. It is based on the idea of discontinuous time and takes the moment just before midnight as a point of departure into a new world. Chicago SO/Daniel Barenboirn. Birtwistle: Exody. Mahler: Symphony No 5 in C sharp

minor, (R) 9.30 Postscript, Peter Holland talks to ten Shakespeare experts about the Bard today, 4: 'Queer Shakespeare?". Bruce Smith and Alan Sinfield discuss gay interpretations of 'The Merchant of Venice'. 9.50 Schubert Songs, Some

6.00 Clubhouse Detectives (1996) (47783). 8.00 A Kid in King Arthur's

Court (1995) (53561). 10.00 Carpool

(1996) (53986), 12.00 Clubhouse Detec-rives (1996) (76412), 2.00 Phoenix and the Magic Carpet (1994) (85509), 4.00 A

Anid in King Arthur's Court (1995) (8211).

ood Buzz (7696). 8.00 When Harry Lat (1989) (60290) 10.00 The

iding (1996) (415517). 2.00 Foxfire

ver (1995) (37714772).

Y MOVIEMAX

6) (889130), 3.50 - 5.00 Nina Takes

O Jules Verne's 800 Leagues down the

terfall (1995) (76748238). 9.15 The Wind

azon (1994) (35257). 7.30 Behind the

he Willows (1996) (44499615). **11.00** 

33) 100 A Message from Holly 32) (86899), 3.00 Jules Verne's 600

9306). 5.00 Behind the Waterfall (1995)

996) (68702), 8.30 Action Heroes (5219).

.00 Turbulence (1997) (364702). 12.40

ch School High (1996) (4759159). 2.05

4.00 Cornered (1945) (7145899). 8.00

Pony Express (1953) (9544561), 8.00 AFTs

One Hundred Years (6929764), 10.30 Citi-

Majestyk (1974) (7507468). 2.30 The Rain-

DOW (1989) (4746739), 4.05 Africa Screams

5.00 Alphaville (1965) (2604702). **8.00** 1984 (1984) (2689219). **10.00** 2025: a Space Odyssey (1968) (28132431). **12.20** THX 1138 (1970) (7877772). **1.45** The Navi-

gator (1988) (2274536). 3.15 - 6.00 The

4.00 Rex Hunt's Fishing Adventures (8580122). 4.30 Walker's World (8586306).

(2946615). **5.30** Jurassica (8500986). **6.00** Animal Doctor (8507899). **6.30** Danger

Beach (2050412). **7.30** Beyond 2000 (8587035). **8.00** Men in Black: UFO, Down

to Earth (8.00pm-12.00): Reason to Believe

(5280290). 9.00 Great Balls of Fire

(5200054). 10.00 Retrieval (5203141). 11.00 Dreamland (8818667). 12.00 Inten-

5.00 Connections 2 by James Burke

en Kane (1941) (7727035). 12.30 Mr

ire Journals (1997) (61340710).

249) (65826791). **5.20** Close.

Last Bartle (1983) (64804333).

DISCOVERY CHANNEL

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cas (1986) (795352). 3,45 - 6.00 Vam-

5108). 7.00 The Wind in the Willows

00 Crocodile Dundee (1966) (78219).

agues down the Amazon (1994)

v's Return to Snowy River (1988)

SKY PREMIER

#### PICK OF THE DAY

1999 WILL BE the year of Noel Payo (9.45pm R4), which Coward (right), it being the explains itself. Between those centenary of his birth, and the two is Tooight at 8.30 (8.30pm BBC likes a good centenary. R4), which features two of the The jamboree kicks off tonight plays Coward produced under with two features, A Presence that label. "Red Peppers" is a of Laughter (8pm R4) in which daft sketch about second-rate Christopher Cook gives us a music-hall artists. "Still Life" view of Coward's achievements the basis for Brief Encounter - is and what we can expect in much better, but you miss Celia 1999, and My Life with Noel: Johnson and Trevor Howard. Reminiscences of Graham

favourite Schubert songs recorded

at the 1998 Schwetzingen Festival. Ruth Ziesak (soprano), Helmut Deutsch (piano). Rastlose Liebe; Er-

gegrusst, D741; Dass sie hier gewe-

sen; Du bist dia Ruh; Lachen und

weinen; Geheimes; An den Mond,

an Jack samples the Neapolitan

10.45 Book, Music and Lyrics. Six

programmes in which Robert Cush-

man presents a personal view of

musicals, with songs from original

some less well known, 6: 'Clowns', A

people who really were comic - and

Mostel, Bob Hope, Martha Rave, Sid

cast recordings - some familiar,

tribute to some musical comedy

music as well: Fanny Brice. Zero

1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night.

6.00 Today, 9.00 NEWS; In Our Tima with

9.45 Serial: Peter Pan and Wendy. 10.00 NEWS; Woman's Hour.

11.30 Old Dog and the Partridge.

2.15 Afternoon Play: Open Secrets.

3.00 NEWS; Call You and Yours;

12.00 NEWS; You and Yours.

11.00 From Our Own Correspondent.

9.30 Hancock and Son.

1.00 Tha World at One.

1.30 Hidden Treasures.

2.00 NEWS; The Archers.

Caesar and others.

11.30 Jazz on 3.

(924-946MHz FM )

Melvyn Bragg

0171 580 4444.

3.30 The Small Ad.

RADIO 4

D296; Klarchens Lied; Ganymed. 10.35 The Harmonic Series. 8: Adri-

ster Verlust: Suleika 1; Sei mir

ROBERT HANKS



3.45 Swimming into Ninety Nine. 4.00 Word of Mouth. 4.30 The Material World 5.00 PM. 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.30 The Worriers. 7.00 NEWS; The Archers. 7.15 Front Row, 'Old Acquaintance'. What makes a pop star with a global

audience remain loyal to his or her home town? John Wilson investigates, with the help of Michael Stipe from REM, Bjork, and John Cale of the Velvet Underground. 7.45 Under Ona Roof. The second of three five-part dramatisations from the Michele Hanson stories, with Janet Maw, Edna Dore and Luisa Bradshaw-White (4/5). 8.00 NEWS; A Presence of

Laughter: Coward's Century. The centenary of the birth of Noel Ciward falls in 1999, and to mark the anniversary gittering new produc-tions of his plays, cornedies and musicals are planned, as well as the publication of previously unknown work. Christopher Cook gives a foretaste of the centenary events, with archive contributions from Coward himself. Sea Pick of the Day. 8.30 Tonight at 8.30. 'Still Life' by Noel Coward, adapted by Malcolm McKee. When Laura Jesson finds

some grit in her eye, her brief an-counter with Dr Alec Harvey at Miford Junction station begins a series of secret assignations. With Amanda Root and John Duttine, Director Sue Wilson. See Pick of the Day. 9.00 Red Peppers. George and Lily Pepper, a second-rate music hall act, are struggling to survive in a particu-

larly bad touring venue. With Nickolas Grace, Susie Blake, Clifford Rose and Josephine Tewson. Director Sue Wilson. See Pick of the Day. 9.45 My Life with Noel -Reminiscences of Graham Pavn. By Barry Day, Coward's companion, tha actor Graham Payn, rounds off the evening with reminiscences of his life with Noel See Pick of the Day.

10.00 NEWS; Pick of the Year. Highlights of 1999 on BBC radio celebrated by Peter White. 10.45 Book at Bedtime: Five Dahls. Vengeance is Mina Inc' by Roald Dahl, read by William Hootkins. A couple of hard-up Americans devise a brittant schema to avenge celebrities who have been insulted by newspaper columnists (4/5).

1LOO 99 How Are Ya? We're the Nualas. Comedy with Anne Gildea, Susan Colins, Susannah de Wrixon, Feargal Murray, Dara O'Brian and a special guest. **†L30** Jason Byrne.

12.00 News. 12.30 The Late Book: The Restraint of Beasts. 12.48 Shipping Forecast.

1.00 As World Service. 5.30 World News 5.35 Shipping Forecast. 5.40 inshore Forecast. 5.45 Prayer for the Day. 5.47 - 6.00 Farming Today. RADIO 4 LW

(198kHz) 9.45 - 10.00 Daily Service 12.00

**RADIO 5 LIVE** (693, 909kHz MW) 6.00 Proops's Hoops. (R) 6.30 Breakfast. 9.00 Brian Hayes. 12.00 The Midday News. 1.00 Ruscoe and Co. 4.00 Drive.

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7.00 News Extra. 7.30 Muscular Prose. Nick Coleman explores the unusual the exotic and the extreme in sport. (R) 8.00 Inside Edge. Rob Bonnet in-vestigates the globalisation of sport. Whether it be football, Formula One or cricket, sport is increasingly bound up with the mutamition pound world of television rights. Where will it all end?

9.00 Off Piste. Clare Belding joins former downhill racer Konrad Bartelski for a round-up of this season's action on the slopes. All the latest news from the world of sking and snowboarding plus the second record-breaking bid to ski every day for 365 days. 10.00 Late Night Live. With Nick

Robinson. 11.30 Millennium Fever. 12.30 Up All Night. 4.00 Extra Time (R) 5.00 - 6.00 When Winter Comes.

CLASSIC FM (1000-1019MHz FM ) 6.00 Nick Bailey. 8.00 Henry Kelly. 12.00 Requests. 2.00 Classic Celebrity Recitals. 3.00 Jamie Crick 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven. 9.00 Evening Concert. 11.00 -6.00 All Night New Year Ball.

VIRGIN RADIO (1215, 1197-1260kHz MW 1058MHz FM) 6.00 Jeremy Clark. 10.00 Russ Williams 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00 Harriet Scott. 7.30 Wheels of Steel. 1.00 - 6.00 James Merritt.

WORLD SERVICE RADIO (198kHz LW) 1.00 Newsdask, 1.30 Composer of the Month. 2.00 Newsday. 2.30 Focus on Faith. 3.00 World News. 3.05 World Business Report. 3.15 Sports Roundup. 3.30 Assignment. 4.00 - 7.00 The World Today.

TALK RADIO 6.00 Bill Overton and Sally Maen. 9.00 Scott Chisholm, 12.00 Lorraine Kelly. 2.00 Nancy Roberts. 4.00 Peter Deeley. 5.00 The Sports Zone, 8.00 James Whale. 100 - 6.00 Gordon Astley.

#### INDEPENDENT PURSUITS

#### CHESS JON SPEELMAN

The Hastings International Chess Congress started oo Tuesday with a bloodthirsty round in which three of the five games were decisive.

The drawing of lots, which determines the draw for the whole tournameot had taken place in the bar of the venue, the Cinque Ports Hotel (01424-439222) on Mooday evening. The arrangement is somewhat complex but does have the effect that the top half - in this case numbers 1 to 5, have an extra White, while the bottom half have (the alleged disadvantage of an extra Black. As a result on Mooday No 1 Ponomariov played No 10 Plaskett. I No 2 played No 9 Shipov and continuing in the same way there were Miles v Sadler, Fressinet v Salter and Sokolov v Emms.

The tournament was officially opened by the local MP Michael Foster, who later performed the highly important function of starting the clocks. As is traditional, the very first move was also ceremonial, with the Mayor of Hastings, Godfrey Daniel, attempting 1.f3 for Tooy Miles against Matthew Sadler. Miles, however, corrected this to the English Opening 1.c4 and they drew quite quickly.

All the other games went the distance. I got a reasonable position against Shipov but allowed some tactics to reach a worse endgame and was squeezed. Fressinet eventually drew with Salter after pressing and Ponomariov, as is his wont, won a long technical battle 13 f4 Nbd7 against Plaskett. But the game of the 14 Qc2 d5 day was definitely Ivan Sokolov's 15 f5 exf5

violent victory against John Emms. 9....Bxt3 was excessively bold against an axeman like Ivan, Instead 9...Bxc3+ was sensible wheo if 10. Qxc3 Ne4! should equalise while if 10. bxc3 d6 or 10....d5 is reasonable.

Sokolov built up his attack aloog the g file in exemplary fashion, oot worrying about the discovered check which he allowed Emms in the diagram. For instance if 17....Ba3+ 18. Kfl Bxb2 19. Nd5! is murderous.

17....g6? looks wrong however if he wants to take on h2 then he should play 17 .... Qc7 at once: moreover the black squares were seriously weakened. After 23. Ba4! it was all over. At the end after 30 .... Qc8 (else 31. Rxh7!) 31. Qf4 Qf5 32. Qh6! Qxe4+ 33. Kg3 Qd3+ 34. f3 mates.

> Sokolov, 1 v Emms, J Hastings 1998 Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 Nf6

2 c4 e6

3 Nf3 b6

12 Be2 d6

16 Qxf5 dxc4 17 Bxc4 g6? 18 Qf3 Qc7 19 Bh3 Oxh2?! 4 Nc3 Bb4 5 Ob3 c5 26 Rh1 Qc7 6 BgS Bb7 21 Kf1 Qd8 22 Rel Rf8 7 Rd1 0-0 8 e3 cxd4 23 Ba4 b5 9 exd4 Bxf3 24 Bxb5 Rb8 10 gxf3 Be7 25 Bxd7 Qxd7 11 Rgi Re8 26 Rxe7 Oxe7 27 Bxf6 Qe6 28 d5 Qa6+ 29 Kg2 Rb6 30 Ne4 1-0

#### POKER DAVID SPANIER

IT'S THE time of New Year resolutions and all that, I have ofteo set myself good resolutions in the past - such as; don't play when drunk; don't play for more than you can afford; don't lend money at the table. And I have more or less kept to them. Interestingly, I find that these three conditions are likely to be broken simultaneously, rather than any one on its own.

In the old days, the traditional advice to oew poker players was threefold. 1. Don't play anyooe with a diamond stick-pin. 2. Doo't buy insurance from a man called Doc. 3. Don't play two small pairs in draw

I wonder if this advice might be updated for our own times? 1. Don't listen to horse-race tips at the table. 2. Never bluff a man with a higher stack. 3. Doo't play short pairs at Hold 'em. If you dismiss this advice as shallow, just think how much money you would have saved last year by observing these rules.

All of which leads me to raise the basic question: why do you play poker? I mean, really, why? It's not for money. If you play in a card club, for an average, say, of four hours a day, five days a week, with a table charge of £5 an hour, your annual outgoings amount to £5,200, not counting tips to waitresses for cups of tea and to doormen for parking.

Most players of my acquaintance haven't got the faintest chance of winning £5,200 in the year. Granted, a few people do. But for the vast majority, I think you will agree, the answer is no way. They win a bit, or even a lot; and feel great; and then lose it back, and feel miserable.

It is entirely different in a private game among friends, where the money goes around the table in a spirit of give and take, and there is oo table charge.

So, if it's not the money, what is the motive? I think the answer is that poker is so fascinating that It is completely justified for its own sake. Each hand, each deal, offers a oew challenge. Secondly, the interplay of character is endlessly absorbing. Better, 1 sometimes feel, than going to the theatre, because at poker you can sit down or get out as and when you feel like it.

And thirdly, the social mix. The game offers the chance to meet all sorts of people in that curious middle-ground that exists between close friendship and casual acquaintance. So my toast for 1999 is for more poker, win or lose - though I must admit, if you press me, that winning is better than losing.

#### SATELLITE AND CABLE

#### PICK OF THE DAY

IF YOU feel like watching other cause belly-laughs. Remember Mayall sitcom, The Young Ones (11pm UK Gold, right). The antics of the four squalid housesharing students (Mayall, Nigel Planer, Ade Edmondson and Chris Ryan) retain their crude capacity both to shock and to

people misbehave oo New Year's when Vyvyan (Edmondson) ate Eve without having to forsake the the telly in a vain attempt to comfort of your living-room, then cooceal it from the TV licence tune into this four-hour loog inspector? Along with comic screening of episodes of the cameos from Alexei Sayle, this Ben Elton, Lise Mayer and Rik series demonstrated the writing talents of Elton, which weot on to further expression in Blackadder. The show also foreshadowed the gross-out comedy of Mayall and Edmondson's Bottom (10.20pm UK Gold).

JAMES RAMPTON



(85073). 12.00 Aerobics - Oz Style sive Care: The Problem with Men (3240265). **1.00** Connections 2 by James Burke (4422264). **1.30** Ancient Warriors (50412), 12.30 Unbellevable Sports (86325), 1.00 Motorcycling (32685), 3.00 Figure Sketting (17580). 5.00 World (9917975). 2.00 Close.

SKY ONE 8.00 Games World (4087967), 8.15 Games World (4060290). 8.30 Street Sharks (21899), 9.00 The Simpsons (45621), 9.30 Earthworm Jim (40412).

10.00 Hercules - the Legendary Journeys (94306), HLOO The New Adventures of Superman (64770). 12.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (30035). **1.00** Days of Our Lives (49783), 2.00 Salty Jessy Rapheel (71967). 3.00 Jenny Jones (68344), 4.00 Guityi (47851), 5.00 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (4967), 6.00 Married with Children (4122). 6.30 Dream Team (8702), 7.80 The Simpsons (5696), 7.30 The Simpsons (4986). 8.00 Friends (4344), 8.30 Friends (3851). 9.00 Friends (43035), 9.30 Friends (31764), 10.00 3rd Rock from the Sun (26344). 10.30 Married with Children (95144). 11.00 Dream Team (48590). 11.30 Friends (69122), 12.00 Sky News Bells (35159), 12.30 Highlander (69826), 1.30 -8.00 Long Play (6838913).

SKY SPORTS 1 7.00 Sky Sports Centre (8856615). 745 World Wrestling Federation Shot Gun (692783). 845 Sky Sports Centre (8007306). 8.30 Racing News (56696). 9.00 Aerobics - Oz Style (47948). 9.30 Unbellevable Sports (82509). 10.00 Scottish Football Dundee vs Rangers

Wresting Federation Superstars (2431) 6,00 Sky Sports Centre (94344), 7,00 Gillette World Sport Special (3572), 7.30 Super League - Super Tries 1998 (46899). 8.30 Football Special - Goals and Bioopers (32948), 10.00 Sky Sports Centre (29967), 11.00 Super League Super Tries 1998 (42987), 12.00 Football Special - Goals and Bloopers (21739). 1.30 Futbol Mundal (86265), 2.00 Super League - Super Tries 1998 (67604), 3.00 Football Special - Goals and Bloopers (49915). 4.30 Sky Sports Centra (93178). 5.30 - 6.00 What a Weekend (87596). SKY SPORTS 2

7.00 Aerobics - Oz Style (3001122). 7.30 Sky Sports Centre (5320412), 7.45 Racing News (8574870), 8.15 Unbellevable Sports (6792325), 8.45 Sky Sports Centre (6015702), 9.00 Fish TV Fishing Texas (2975948), 9.30 Fish TV Americans Outdoors (3030580), 10.00 Darts: World Chempionships (2233344), 2.00 Sports Unitraited (4296967), 3.00 Watersports World (8301899), 4.00 los Hockey (184035), 6.30 The Rugby Club (8344306), 7.30 Motorcycling (1068509). 9.30 Fishing (8687851). 10.30 Football League Raview (8184851), 11.30 What e Weekend (4284122), 12.00 los Hockey (9022517), 2.30 Sky Sports Centra

(4210866), 3.30 Motorcycling (5891804). 5.30 - 6.00 Futbol Mundal (4116791) SKY SPORTS 3 12.00 Working Federation Super stars (4864615). 1.00 Fish TV Fishing

Texas (94816948). 1.30 Fish TV Ame cana Outdoors (48621851). 2.00 Olympic ries Golden Moments (67384851). 2.30 Sky Sports Classics Rugby Union -Biedisioe Cup (87848899), 3.30 Football Special: Goals and Bioopers (60223870). 5.00 Football League Review (67374238). 6.00 Fish TV Angling Masters (48647899). 7.00 Survival of the Fittest (67375967). 7.30 Football League Review (34253493). 8.30 What a Weekend (67363122), 9.00 The Rugby Club (65990073). 10.00-11.30 Bobby Charlton's Footbell Scrapbook (56445257).

7.30 Xirem Sports Yoz Mag (52946). 8.30 Xirem Sports (45948). 9.30 Triathion (90667). 11.00 Ski Jumping (98325). 12.30 Offroad (89677). 1.30 Bowling (69293), 3.00 Ski Jumping (12035), 4.30 Figure Skating (749667), 7.00 Dencing (15764), 8.00 Sumo (24412), 9.00 Motor Sport (†1948), 10.00 Combat Sports (14035), 11.00 Sports Cock-Ups (80580). 11.30 And They Walked Away (33528). 12.30 Motor Sport (67284), 1.00 Close. UK GOLD

7.80 Crossroads (8016365), 7.30 Neighbours (4033509), 7.55 EastEnders (4440986), 8.30 The Bit (8756306), 9.00

The BM (8770686), 9.30 Pride and Prejudice (9638580), 10.30 Angels (8769870), 11.00 Delles (3773580), 11.55 Neighbours (32522431), 12,25 EastEnders (2956580), 1.00 Pride and Prejudice (7029035), 2.00 Dallas (6293219), 2.55 The Bill (2648870). 3.25 The Bit (6856870). 3.55 EastEnders (#81306). 4.30 Angels (78009702). 4.55 hind (1975) (20556412), 6.45 Christmas Comedy Alternative: Only Fools and Horses (15363783). 840 Christmas Comedy Alternative: Porridge (8369851). 9.00 One Foot in the Grave (5636238). 9.40 Men Behaving Badly (7594306). 10.20 Bottom (5254054). See Pick of the Day. 11.00 The Young Ones (9970783) See Pick of the Day. 11.40 The Young Ones (86968 12.20 The Young Ones (7670688). 1.05 The Young Ones (2920420), 1.45 The Young Ones (1073197), 2.20 The Young Ones (3649505). 2.55 - 7.00 Shopping with Screenshop (13682975).

6.00 Tiny Living (9165899), 9.00 The Roseanne Show (4968325), 9.50 The Jerry Springer Show (5703526). 10.40 Michael Cole (3914996), 11.30 Brookside (1841238). 12.00 Special Babies (3902219). 12.30 Rescue 911 (1475580), 1.00 Ready, Steady, Cook (1924580), 1.35 Carrit Cook, Won't Cook (25577431). 2.00 Diana: a Day in the Life (7127344). 3.00 Films: All About Eve (1950) (92954141). 5.35 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (8710122). 6.50 The Jerry Springer Show (6447219), 7.00 Rescue 911 (7124306). 7.30 Beyond Belief: Fact or Fiction (1793122). 8.00 Murder Call (9543832). 9.00 Film: Educating Filte (1983) (9553219). 11.00 Sex Life Down Under 12608321 12.00 Close.

TNT 1550582380, 11.00 High Society (1956) (51939238). 1.00 An American in Paris (1951) (21692888): 3.00 Viva Las Vegas (1964) (75386456): 5.00 Close().

PARAMOUNT COMEDY CHANNEL 7.00 Clueless (1702), 7.30 Desmond's (5870), 8.00 Roseanne (7122), 8.30 Just Shoot Me (6257), 9.00 Cybli (98509), 9.30 Seinfeld (97431). 10.00 Fraster (59783). 10.30 Cheers (68431). 11.00 Festival of Fun I (93054). **11.30** The Larry Sanders Show (14896). **12.00** Late Night with David Letterman (42604), 1.00 Taxi (27688), 1.30 The Critic (54807), 2.00 Dr Katz (50265). 2.30 Soap (39772), 3.00 Hooperman (30352), 3.30-4.00 Nghistand (53352).

### REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

BBC1 N IRELAND As BBC1 London except: 5.25 Newsline (2873238).

BBC1 BCOTLAND As SBC1 London except: 5.10 News (2878783). 5.25 Reporting Scotland; Weather (2873238), 9.10 News; Regional News (Digital: UK Today); Weather (132344), 9.25 Robin Hall Remembered: Jimmie Mcgregor celebrates the life and music of Robin Hall (480493). 9.40 Och around the Clock: Pougie Vipond presents an intererent romp through Scotland's chequered rock 'n' pop pest (469493). 10-30 Elaine C Smith on Hogmanay: Elaine C Smith ings out the old year with 16 milligrams of bobbity cose, three types of short-bread, the Scottish Parliament and some toe-tapping tunes (55832). 11.00 Only an Excuse? (909847). 11.35 Rev I M Jolly (616764). 12.30 Resolutions 1998: A journey from despair to hope (918797). 12.35 The End of the Year Show with Angus Deayton: Angus Deayton's big consulty special looks back at the high-lights of 1998. With Robble Coltrane, Julie Walters and two guest appearances from Steve Coogan (834994).

1.45 Joins BBC News 24 (25032772).

BRC1 WALES As BBC1 London except: 5.25 Wales Today (2873238). ANGLIA

As Carlton except: 9.25 ITN News Headlines (4048870). 9.30 Anglia News and Weather (5946238). 12.20 Anglia News and Weather (6470783). 5.00 Anglia News and Weather (5580). 3.00 Film: The Running Man: Insurance agent Alan Bates follows trail of clues to Spain after pilot Laurence Harvey fakes his own death. Lee Remick looks photogenic in local surroundings but sus-pense seems optional to director Carol Reed. With Eleanor Summerfield (398623), 4.55 Soundtrax (56154833). CENTRAL

As Cariton except: 12.20 Central News and Weather (6470783). 12.30 ITN News; Weather (2155493). 5.90 Central News and Weather (5580).

HTV WALES As Cariton except: 12.20 HTV News (6470783). 4.30 Ousine: Cookery quiz show presented by Chris Kelly. With a celebrity chef who cooks up two mouthcelebrity Girls Will Come by Control of the Watering recipes and passes on some top culinary tips (9224238). 4.55 HTV News (7543493). 3.00 Film: The Running Man

(398823). 4.55 Soundrax: Musicians talk about their work (58154933). HTV WEST

As HTV Wales except: 4.30 Murder, She Wrote: Murdery mystery series. Jessica and an old friend trivestigate the mysterious death of the owner of three brownstone buildings in New York. The city's on-street parking laws provide Jessica with the key to solving the case (1063238), 5-15 HTV News (2862122).

Marketian except: 10.40 Film: Wild Hearts Carl Be Broken: During the Dapression, unhappy orphan Gabrielle Anwar runs away from her foster home Anvar runs away from her roster nome to join a travelling carnival act - plunging 40 feet into water tanks astricle e horse. Curious fact-based Disney drama, beautifully filmed in autumnal colours. With Michael Schoeffling, Cliff Robertson, Dylan Kussman (85628528), 12.15 Meridian News and Weather (3171219), 4.30 Mendian Tonight (71238), 5.30 Film: The Sundho Men (39873), 4.55 The Running Man (398623). 4.55 Soundtrax (56154933). WESTCOUNTRY As Cariton except: 10.40 Film: Wild Hearts Can't Be Broken (85628529).

12.35 Westcountry News (3171219). 12.27 (Burninations (6488702). 4.30 Westcountry Live (71238). 3.00 Firm: The Running Man (398623). 4.55 Soundtrax (56154933). YORKSHIRE

As Cariton except: 12.20 Calendar News and Weather (6470783). 4.30 Tal-ent of Tomorrow: Talented youngsters from across the region battle it out be-fore a studio audience to be named Talent of Tomorrow'. Hostess Lisa Riley is joined by a panel of celebrity Judges in-during Mark Curry and comedian Tom O'Connor (5013344). 5.20 Calendar News and Weather (8989851).

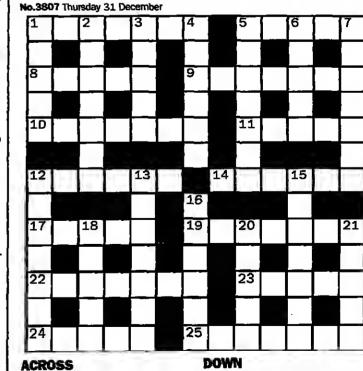
As Yorkshire except: 12.20 North East News and Weather (6470783), 5.20 North East News and Weather (8989851). As Channel 4 except: 12.30 AS Channel 4 except 12:30
Planed Plant: Migmas a Pingu
(51602865). 1.00 Words from My Father
(66525325). 1.15 Alice through the Looking Glass: Adaptation of Lewis Carroll's

TYNE TEES

fantasy novel featuring an all-star cast. A fired mother reads the story to her daughter, only to find herself transport-ed to the magical world (35418275).

4.30 Planed Plant: Catrin, Lowri and Bedwyr present the popular children's magazine programme. In this edition, Gair am Aur lau - the youth quiz programma - and Uned 5 (425)6948) 5.30 Christmas Countdown (11930122). 6.00 Newyddion (19531988). 6.10 Heno (80261141). **7.00** Pobol y Cwm (33925615). **7.25** Penblwydd Hapus (7478257) **8.00** Carrital Y Cofi (18534290) **8.30** Newyddion (23892035) **8.45** Film: Gadael Lenin: Amiable cornedy in which a group of vis-iting Welsh sixth-formers and their teachers are separated an route to St Petersburg, leaving both groups strand-ed in an allen culture, struggling to come to farms with themselves and their ad in an asen custure, strugging to come to terms with themselves and their surroundings. (81812290). 10.30 Mary Post: Portread o Mary Lloyd-Davies: A portrait of opera singer Mary Lloyd Davies (42529412). 11.30 Noson Lawen (53154783). 12.30 Frastr: American sitters about a Seattle based acido osse com about a Seattle-based radio psy-charist. Frasier reveals Roz's pregnance to her unknowing mother. And Niles gets stuck in the lift (21168975). 1.00 TFI Fri-day New Year: Highights of the talk and the house control by Chris Evens misic show presented by Chris Evans (99329246), 1.30 Adam and Joe's Toy Movie Special (73696246), 2.15 Close.

CONCISE CROSSWORD



Seasons (7) Stops (5) Mistake (5) Untruth (7)

25 Cultured (7)

10 Line touching curve (7) 11 African river (5) 12 Go in search of food (6)

14 Short sight (6) 17 Provide refreshments (5) 19 Tribe of warlike women (7) 22 Bring charges against (7) 23 Public (5)

24 Mother-of pearl (5)

DOWN Heat metal to extract ore (5) Seafarer (7) Uncanny (5) Security (6) London borough (7) Mendacious (5) Spanish drink (7) 12 Dissident group (7) 13 Rubbish (7) 15 Type of TV programme (5-2) 16 Slice of bacon (6) 18 Subject (5) 20 Distant (5) 21 Fully satisfied (5)

Solution to yesterday's Concise Crossword: ACROSS: 1 Queue, 4 Tickle (Cuticle), 9 Aileron, 10 Tulle, 11 Tote, 12 Carbine, 13 Fat. 14 Raja, 16 Orgy, 18 Hem, 20 Pro rata, 21 Soar, 24 Alibi, 25 Inertia, 26 Exhume, 27 Dacha, DOWN: 1 Quartz, 2 Eclat, 3 Earl, 5 Intercom, 6 Killing, 7 Eleven, 8 Enact, 13 Fatalism, 15 Abolish, 17 Opiate, 18 Habit, 19 Errata, 22 Optic, 23 Bead.

# PETER CONCHIE

TELEVISION REVIEW

ething expansive, like a novel or history book – an novel or history book – an arturity seized with varying ees of auccess by the m's drama departments. his year, BBC1 presented Echo, ITV a predictable growth Rosie, and Channel lie of dramatic note.

unwhile, BBC2 followed

, alongside by. A case of new

rama, old faces.
Angela Lambert's story is
Angela Lambert's story is
ssentially lightweight, a
seriod piece on loss, class and
ild age, which Davies, to his
redit, freshened up siderably. Courtenay was aderful as Roy Southgate, ex-milkman who was owed oo the same night as adron Leader Reginald yngham-Jervis. The two ly old men, encouraged by clal worker, ended up the linney's empty

cively a servant.
The manner of the deaths of the deaths of gige and Southgate's wives, in minutes on the arme pital ward, was used as a subre device to define the viving partners' social ding. The milko's missus de a raging, ratiling exit, le the squadron leader'e use didn't want ary fuss, croaked quietly without so has a bug on the bedside

was playing a character roughly her own age. As a seductresa she is still supert, with an alluring ability to dilete her pupils on cue like a car flashing its headlights. Lumley's performance as a gold-digger was enthusiastic, if a little uneven. The make-up department had done something clever with blusher, which aged her disconcertingly, although, ironically, Lumley was playing a character

unctuated by an unspoken ad poignant telegramatic stop". All told, it was a rather braileh drama. "I never could tand hospitals," Roggie tand hospitals," Roggie lustered to his dying wife. "We have to me," she replied. schange after Southgate tool n early morning phone call. leggie stood symbolically at e top of the stairs,
buthgate at the foot. "It was
e prison. My son's dead. Can
ake the car?" The phrasea
are weighted beautifully,
inctuated by an unspoken

10

met in one," she replied.
Another habitually male environment formed the backdrop for a contemplative edition of Garden Doctors (C4). It would have been impractical and undignified to rush an order of Benedictine monks into finishing their tea, let alone landscaping a garden, something recognised in the first of e two-part garden rediction broated at Ouer Abbendaries. 100

mey's empty use, with Southgate On the Jan.
The brothers west.
The brothers west.
Hurry, holding ourservous
mostings and taking a field trip
to the mainland before they
consented, but, given, the
mainlent demands of the impatient demanus ...
makeover format, I was
concerned on their behalf. Quarr Abbey

I humanised the monks, of humanised the monks, to were given the courtesy of roper introduction, and re conversed with rather in asked the usual

Crasa questions.

One was an ex-teacher, another once worked in the music industry. "My mother was rather disappointed t became a monk," one chimed, "but I suppose lots of mothers are disappointed with their latest the suppose."

MUSIC SHOW OF THE DAY

Depends, to a degree, on who you want wishing you a "bappy New Year". Most people would agree that Jools Holland (right) is the best of a poor bunch (Carol Smillle, John Lestle and Jenny Powell being the others), and be's certainly got the most stylisb guests with whom to sec io 1999. Than Jones, All Saints, Sharleen Spiteri of Texas and the Beautiful South's Paul Heaton all perform with Holland's Rhythm and Blues Orchestra, while the Corrs, Catstonis and Mercury prizewinners Goore do it for themselves. The New Year itself will

BBC

7.10 Childran's BBC; Poddington Peas (R) (6738219), 7.15 Teletubbles (5722661), 7.40 Yoghs Treasure Hunt (R) (1674948), 5.00 Newsround Review of the Year (5420-681), 5.35 Taz-Mania (8032870), 9.00 Sweet Valley High (R) (7514784), 9.25 The Fame Game (7533889), 9.50 Teletubbles (1606698), 10.20 News; Weather (8172581).

12,00 1.40 **Wipaout** (S) (T) (9718054). **12.25** Laughing for Agea (S) (8485344). **1.00** News; Weather; Regional News (21207412). **135** Neighbours (S) (T) (58875832).

7.00 EastEnders. Will Frank make it back for New Year's Eve? Surely the queation on everyone's lips this New Year. And will Tiffarry's plans for the future include Grant or Beppe? (S) (T) (691621).

\$.30 Nakad Eurovision. Richard Fairbress goes behind the scenes of the 1998 Eurovision Song Contest and uncovers the "tantrums, ttaras and technical challenges" that faced the contestants (S) (T) (854412).

940 Shirley 5:ssay: Viva Divel All together now: "Goooold fing-a". Shirley Bassey sings some of her most memoreble songs with aupport from the company of the hit musical Chicago (S) (T) (804141).

10.00 Newaj Regional Newsj Waather (T) (434509). 1015 They Think It's All Ovar. Phill Jupitus, Iain Lee and Vinnie Jonss are the boys' gueats (S) (T) (254412).

10.15

10.45 The End of tha Yeer Show with Angus
Decyton. Angua Decyton looks back at the highlights
of 1898 with Robbie Coltrene, Julie Waltera and
two of Steve Coogan's characters – Mancumian headbutter Paul Calf and Portuguese crooner Tony Ferrino
(S) (T) (155073).

New Year Live (S) (352344). 12.30 Happy New Year (S) (9187997).

11.40

12.35 ITIM Carry On Columbue (Geraid Thomas 1992 UK). Ill-advised attempt to revive the much-loved series, with a strong Comic Strip contingent boosting old timere Jim Dale and Bernard Cribbins (followed by Westher) (S) (1) (675/343), To 2.05am.

10.30 IIII Herbio Goae Sananae (Vincent McEveety 1980 US). The sentient Volkswagen is shipped to Rio and bacomes involved in smuggling stolen art (19122).

**IJIM Getting Even With Ded** (Howard Deutch 1984 US). Ex-convict Ted Deneon tries bonding with his son, Macaulay Culkin (S) (T) (75861431).

Tha World's Strongeet Man (S) (T) (2750388).
3.55 Boyzons: A Live and Kicking Year (3942509). 4.20
Blue Peter - Magic Moments (S) (T) (8448685). 4.45
Neighbours (S) (T) (8227325). 6.40 News; Weather (T)
(2878783). 5.25 Local News (2873238).

5.40 Shaggy-dog sequet, with virtually the same cast, which shaggy-dog sequet, with virtually the same cast, which means that it benefits from a reprise of Cheries Grodin's wonderful performance as the grouchy patsriamiliae who owns the titular St Barnard. This time, Besthoven is in love, which throws bur pupples into the now familiar mix of domestic chaps and animal antics. It'll keep the lides emused (6224apr)

Jana's Cruisa to tha Stars. This year's Maureen from Driving School – Is an unlikely celebrity thrown up by a docu-seep – is "British singing senaation" (oh, please) Jans McDonaid from BBC1's Tha Cruise. This one-oil – thank heavens – Ilim follows the Yorkshire charateuse as she plays the London Palladium (326832).

1.25 The Beat ot Glaatonbury 96. Mud, glorious mud, and Tony Bennett, Blur, Pulp, Catatonie, Embrace, Underworld, Portishaad, Spirituslized, Gomez, Bernard Butler end Bob Dylan (followed by Skiling Forecest). To 3am.

5.35

10.25 25 Perteotly Frenk (4/87698). 10.30 The West (S) (T) (89385561). 12.25 Classics for Kids (1723888). 1.15 The Royal institution Christmas Lectures: Staying Alive – the Body in Balance (S) (T) (874325). 2.15 Perfectly Frank (88579764). 2.20 Rex the Runt (88599257). 2.30 Rex the Runt (S) (T) (1285794). 2.40 Combridge Folk Featival (S) (2245493). 3.20 The Old Lady and the Pigaons (R) (S) (1100649). 3.45 Video Nation -- Bost of 98 (7035892). 4.25 Perfectly Frank (S) (T) (1309851).

**S.10 Poppea.** Continuing the sarialised version of David Alden's production of Monteverdi's opera about intrigue at the court of the Emperor Nero. Poppea (Cetrin Wyn Davies) runa into her former husband and makes it dee that ahe is now far out of his reach (S) (375412).

7.45 Merk Lamerr's New Year In. Merk Lamarr Introducee a night of programming (S) (1) (163528).

5.20 Rex tha Runt (S) (T) (560431).

9.05 The Simpaona. Bart managea to get Principal Skinner lired (S) (T) (228122).

9.30 A Kick up the Archive. Compilation show of archive material from A Kick Up the Eightlae, Laugh?? I Nesrly Paid My Licenca Fea. and Neked Video, and feeturing Rik Mayali, Robbie Cottrena, Tracey Ullman, Gregor Fisher, John Sassions, etc (S) (T) (487899).

Nili(II): The Rooky Horror Picture Show (Jim Sharman 1975 UK). Cult comedy musical about two innocent aweethearts who stumble upon a creepy old house full of transsexual revellers. See Film of the Day, below (T) (\$18885).

11.55 HIDE: Joois's Sixth Annual Hootenenny. If you insist on seeing in the New Year with your TV set, this is probably the best programme to see it in with Ses Music Show of the Day, below (S) (T) (945073).

3.00 2.00 Inatant Repley (94710).

DOCUMENTARY OF THE DAY

pecisive moments (6.45pm BBC2) The photographic images of 1998 and the storics behind them, with newspaper picture editors, photo-agency bosses and like photographers themselves. We hear how the shot of Pol Pot's corpse was obtained, as well as the famous picture of President Clinton hugging Monica Lewinsky right) and - from the tabloid side - Prince Harry abseiling and Gazza's kebab. But what makes a historic photograph, other than being simply newsworthy? As well as being a fascinating look at the usefut news review, of those this year.

BBC2

\$.20 IIIM Limelight (Charle Chaplin 1852 US). Pompoua, sell-agrandising Chaplin talkie with the great man playing a washed-up music-hall star (7) (81860035).

4.30 IIIM High Society (Charles Watters 1958 US). Somewhat toothless remaks of The Philladalphila Story boasts Grece Kelly's tast acting role, Blug Crosby and Loule Armstrong duetting on "Now You Has Jazz", and a number of Cole Porter songs, including "Did You Evah" and "You're Sensational" (52895122).

HIMITE Decleiva Momenta: Imegae from tha News 1998. The photographers who took some of the key images of this year tell the stories behind their enaps. See Documentary of the Day, below (S) (1) (777073).

5.45

7.50 New Year Horrore. Mark Lamarr argues a case for New Year's Eve being the most overrated festival of the year (S) (T) (817764).

5.30 The Wisking of Robot Wars, chellenge show is quite fun, but d to know all this? (S) (T) (543887). ars. This DtY-robot-ut do we reatly need

Walle. This, the second Ruth Rendell mystery of the season, stars a teenage newcomer going by the wonderful name of Honeysuckle Weeks. She plays a 16-year-old girl who is evacuated to the countryside to live with her aunts family in 1941, the said-auni's body soon being discovered in the woods. Sylvia Sims and Marsha Fitzalan also star (5) (1) (91386).

10.30 ITN Nawej Weather (T) (404581).

10.45 Stanlay Saxter In Pereon. The Scottish comedian reflects on his 40 years in showbusiness, aided by the likes of Billy Connolly, Robble Coltrans, Rory Bremner and Lufu (T) (531275).

11.45 Edinburgh's Hogmanay Live! (483509).

12.05 Tilly Oown and Out in Baverly Hills (Paul Mazursky 1986 US). Above-per actire with Nick Notte as the tramp turning the lives of Beverly Hills rasidents Bette Milder and Richard Dreyfuss upside down (258791).

ITIM Georgy Girl (Sivio Narizzano 1968 UK). Lynn Radgrave stars in this badly dated Swinging Sixtiea comedy drama (274604). To 4.40am.

US). Nell Simon comedy starring Frank Sinatra as the swinging bachsior with a nagging father (Lee J Cobb) showing his kid brother the ropes in New York (18824702).

7.00 Dinglas Down Under. Feature-langth spin-off from Emmerciale, which was being sold as a video (increasing numbers of soaps are branching out into this market) and follows the Dingle family's adventuree in Australia. Utterly dire (S) (T) (26815).

1.30 The SIII. The revitalised plod soep knocks out another hour-long episode. In "S.A.D", the seasonal sales bring more than Ashton bargained for (1) (48325).

9.30

10.30 Frasiar. A seasonal epsicoe of the Seatile shrink sitcom. Niles gets stuck in the lift (R) (S) (T) (71870).

11.00 Your Favourite Frasier. Clips from tour Frasier episodes, one of which will be shown tomorrow, depending on how viswars vote (859788).

FILM OF THE DAY

3.35 Childran's ITV: Tiny Toon Adventures (R) (S) (T) (1814B15). 10.00 Rocky and the Dodos (R) (S) (792096B). 10.20 Brilliant Creatures (R) (3002122).

Anwar runs away to bec From Dianey (67150829).

12.20 Your Shout (8470783). 12.30 News (2155483).

12.50 IIIM Weterehlp Down (Martin Rosen 1978 UK).

Animated version of Richard Adams's spic tale, with the rabbits votced by John Hurt, Richard Spirs, Ralph Richardson, Denholm Elliott, Harry Andrews, Joss Ackland and Nigel Hawthorns. Art Garfunksi even provided a thems tune (1) (82857561).

Fer from the Madding Crowd (R) (T) (23401). 4.30 Videotech (S) (877). 5.00 London Tonight (T) (5580). 5.30 News; Weather (T) (507788).

5.10 The Freddia Starr Show. The alleged-hamster-sater's guests are the Woolpackera (Emmerciale cast members aing country), a tine-dancing troupe and megician Wayne Dobson (S) (T) (100035).

8.30 Haroos of Coinady: Senny Hill. If you sat through the above and still have the stornach for more, hare's a chance to heer tributee from Henry MoGee, Dick Van Dyka, Bob Monkhouss, Caroline Aherne and Reg Varney (R) (S) (T) (44967).

**11.15 TFI Friday Naw Year** (243306), **11.45** Eurotrash New Year (242677), **12.15** Adam and Jos's Toy Movie Special (8775352).

1.05 IIIM House Party (Reginald Hudlin 1890 US). Upbset comedy teking a refreshing and intelligent look at black teenage life, and featuring e host of rap stars in various roles (675984). To 2.55am.

ITV Carlton

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THE THURSDAY REVIEW
The Independent 31 Deccorber 1998

5.40 Emmerdela. A gun-wielding Billy ts cornered by the police (S) (T) (583764).

5.00

7,05

5.30

Family A1fairs. Dave arranges a tryst with Holly but has to cancel when her mother turns up as well (S) (T) (5309702).

The Greatost Rory Ever Told. Impressionist Rory Bremner is joined by long-time colleagus John Bird and John Fortune in a humorous review of 1988. The programme includes highlights of shows past, including "Richard Whiteley's Serbian Countdown", "Ainsley Harrioft's Can'i Cook, Don't Give a Toss" and the Infamous royal family edition of "Jerry Springar" (99870).

i.00 QMTV (1788141). 9.25 ITN News Headlines (4039122).

10.40 ITEM Wild Haerta Can't Se Sroken (Stave Miner 1991 US). Thirties orphan Gabrielle Anwar runs away to become a stuntwoman.

12.30 The Windrush Years. Completion of testimonies from Britsin's serly West Indian Immigrants (R) (4621431).

6.00 The Wind in tha Willows (R) (25509509), 5.25
Rooberb (R) (37096615), 5.30 Dappledown Farm (R)
(4280412), 7.00 Wimzle's House (R) (852889), 7.30
Millishakel (S) (2262899), 7.35 Havakazoo (R) (S)
(8827702), 5.00 George of the Jungle (R) (7238054),
5.30 ITILI Leasle: Flight of the Cougar (Jack B
Hivsly 1967 US). A wounded cougar, an untermed stallion and a craahed gilder ell pose questions for the supar-Intelligent coille (95198986).

**9.50 My Story** (6768073), **10.20** Sunset Beach (S), (T) (1786603), **11.10** Leeze (R) (S) (8104783), **12.00** 5 News at Noon (S) (T) (723141), **12.30** Family Affsirs (S) (T) (2852851), **1.00** The Bold and the Beautitul (8615870), **1.30** Wowlabgrowy (S) (T) (2851122), **2.00** 100 Per Cent (S) (132702), **2.30** Good Aftsrnoon (S) (2808877).

1.15 5chumann's Loet Romance. Callist and Schumann enthusiast Steven Isserlis travels to Garmany to recon-struct the last years of the composer's life (S) (7761615).

**7.00 Ovida** (R) (55493), **7.30** The Magic School Bus (R) (S) (74528), **5.00** The Big Breakfast (46257), **10.00** Buzz (48344), **10.30** Earle, Indiana (R) (T) (70141), **11.00** Madison (S) (T) (5551), **11.30** Babylon 5 (98141).

2.50 Wine Hunt. The tasms of smatsur wine builts hit Burgundy (S) (T) (5177621). 2.35 Roots to Success. Cardsning tips (6941870). 2.10 Schumenn Cello Concerto, Per Steven isserlis (see above) with the D Kammerphilharmonia (T) (17885073).

3.15 Tool Stories (1118677). 3.50 Fifteen to One Highlighte (T) (9115764). 4.30 Countdown (T) (9215580). 4.85 Ricki Lake (R) (T) (7541035). 5.30 Garden Doctors (699). OO Riverdance - the New Show. Just when you thought you might have seen the last of thie tedious synchronised serobica speciaculer, Channel 4 inflict a performance recorded at New York's Radio City Music Hall in October 1996. At least there's no Michael Flatley. Colin Dunne and Jesn Butler are tha principal tappity-tsppere (R) (S) (T) (7880698).

5.55 Russall Grant's Postcarde (R) (2063412).5.00 100 Per Cant. The game show without a host (S) (2067141).

TIME Fort Apeche (John Ford 1948 US). The first of Ford's "cevery trilogy" about a commanding officer, bitter at his treatment after the Civil War, who takes his recentment out on the men of a remote desert fort. With John Wayne, Henry Fonda and Shirley Temple (34425865).

7.40 The Sest of Senny Hill. A compilation of the gurning, skirt-chesing funnyments aketches, mads in 1974 of the height of his popularity in this country (1109632).

US). Neil Simon's homage to 1930a acrewball farcea is heiped slong by a good caat. Goldle Hawn is the lawys who linds her marriage to her new husbend (Charles Grodin, wasted in the role) jeopardised by the antics ot her ex-husband (Chevy Chese), who is being forced to help rob a bank (T) (80220702).

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9.05 Night Faver. Suggs hoste a special New Year's edition of the karaoke entertainment show, with Philippa Forrester, Claudia Wirkteman, Francine Lewis, Gail Porter, Gaynor Feye, Shaun Williameon, Jonathan Morris, Craig Charlae, Victor Ubogu and Keith Chegwin. With muaic from Utter Madness and Lenny Beige (7655899).

9.55 "pattos coming out of ita ears", according to one critic. Locsely based on Pat Barker's Teeside-based novel Union Street, Jane Fonda stara os a recently widowed New York cake-factory worker who befriends a ahy, withdrawn baker (Robert De Niro) and learns that his reficence is due to his inability to read – a secret he has kept for years. She aeta about teaching him, and e cautious love afair soon follows. All very tine, and quite nicely handled if you can beffeve Fonda and De Niro in these roles (T) (6107832).

11.50 Night Faver (S) (T) (744B122).

12.05 1311/13 Common Law Cabin (Rues Meyer 1867 US) Big-breasted meyhem in Colorado (S) (40312062).

ITM Soldiars of Innocence (Han Woo Jung 1880 US). Memories haunt a Korean War veteran when he returns to the country (5910401). To 320am.

1.26

TELEVISION GUIDE BY GERARD GJERERT



THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW (10.15 pm BBC2)
No one would claim this was a great film, or even a good one, but never hefore has a movie wou itself such a cult following. Based on Richard O'Brier's stage musical, it tells the tale of a coupte (played by Barry Bostwick and Susan Sarandon, right) whose car breaks nown in a storm in Ohio, forcing them to take refuge in mansion owned by Tim Curry's low-camp Dr Frank N Furter. It's a trash spoof of RKO horror pictures, involving sex, cannibalism, transsexuals—just the sort of nonsense that's perfect for New Year's Eve. Not for







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